University of Mary Washington Magazine

SUMMER 2011
Vol. 35 • No. 2

Been There, Done That?

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President Richard V. Hurley, wearing the ceremonial – and highly symbolic – presidential collar, and U.S. Rep. John Lewis of Georgia share a quiet moment before taking the dais at UMW Commencement. Read more about the ceremony on page 4; find excerpts of Lewis' commencement address on page 72.

Photo by Norm Shafer
Cover illustration by AJ Newell

RIDES
University of Mary Washington
Rep. John Lewis
Commencement Address
May 7, 2011

To the **editor**

Different Community, Same Focus on Service

The recent issue of *University of Mary Washington Magazine* was wonderful. In particular, reading about the Freedom Riders commemoration brought back memories that I could juxtapose against the campus of today as described in the article.

It was a different community when I attended then-Mary Washington College in the '60s. There were only two African-American students and, outside of a few seminars and what seemed to be a handful of faculty and students involved in the issues of the larger world, MWC was not an institution fomenting – or even nudging – change.

Despite the passage of federal law, Fredericksburg schools did not desegregate until 1968. I have no idea how many MWC students knew about the Freedom Riders or the housing and school segregation or the low voter registration rates of African-Americans in Virginia.

That said, being at MWC was formative for me. The Campus Community Action Committee was born. It certainly foundered in my years there; however, it was at the center of my learning about community engagement and how to harness students as a human resource to augment community efforts for social justice. We had students working with the housing authority, and we had students staffing a study hall and tutoring African-American children. And we helped some local African-American high school students prepare for the SAT.

My recollection is that our mark was small. Yet, really, what is the measure? There is the social justice yardstick; on that, we were likely not noticeable. Did we change Fredericksburg or MWC? Probably not. Even so, those years are a significant part of the fabric of my life.

I was surprised to receive an award last year – the University of Washington's S. Sterling Munro Public Service Teaching Award, which recognizes a faculty member for exemplary leadership in community-based instruction. The surprise was that I have been able to have a career that, along with clinical work and teaching, allows me to mentor students working for social justice through service learning. That focus started at Mary Washington; I am grateful and needed no award.

Thanks for the walk down memory lane. Interesting place, interesting times, great education.

Sincerely,
Sharon Dobie '69
Seattle, Wash.

A Painful Past

I just want to say that it was a great pleasure to read the article in the recent magazine about the celebration of the Freedom Riders. I am very excited about the fact that Mary Washington has come such a long way.

One very important point was omitted from the article: In 1961, the end of my freshman year, MWC was still very much segregated. I was vocal in my encouragement of integration, speaking out when possible to the administration

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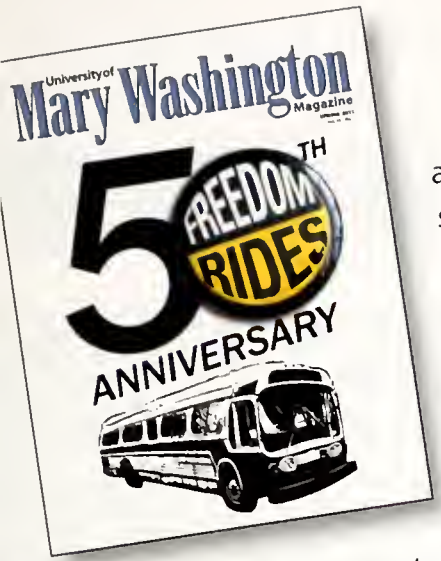


and others. It was not until the summer of 1963, when I went to summer school, that two black women were admitted as day students. Of course nothing out of the ordinary happened except that they were greeted and accepted.

I feel it is important to tell the whole story of the way in which integration came slowly to the Fredericksburg area. The bus and train stations still had separate waiting rooms. The stores were beginning to get rid of the separate bathrooms and drinking fountains. But when I graduated in 1964, the school was still not fully integrated. I do not remember any resident students of color.

We must accept the pain of the past. I lived through it. Thanks for listening.

Marilyn E. Washburn '64
Williamsport, Md.

The Last Word

May I be allowed to add the final comment on the article about the Freedom Riders published in the spring 2011 edition?

The battle against discrimination still goes on, and much remains to be done. But in a single generation, an entire nation recommitted itself to the cause of equal rights and used the full force of the law to ban, once and for all, racial bias in public education, in hiring, and in the voting booth. Nowhere does history offer a parallel to this vast undertaking. With all its flaws, America remains a unique achievement for human dignity on a scale unequaled anywhere in the world.

– President Ronald Reagan in his address to the National Conference of Christians and Jews, March 23, 1982

Sincerely yours,
Helen Singleton Darfus '48
Natchitoches, La.

Brompton **on a Roll**

President and Mrs. Hurley opened their home and lawn to the entire community on April 10 for UMW's Community-Outreach and Resources (COAR) Spring Forward Festival. The afternoon offered crafts, games, food, and egg hunts.

P. Anand Rao

Leaving a Legacy

Civil rights leader urges graduates to make a difference

Never give up your efforts to make a difference in the world, Rep. John Lewis of Georgia implored students at the 100th University of Mary Washington Commencement. Along with James Farmer, the late UMW distinguished professor of history and American studies, Lewis was one of the "Big Six" leaders of the civil rights movement. Both men also participated in the 1961 Freedom Rides, which led to the desegregation of interstate bus travel. Lewis' commencement speech came on the heels of UMW's highly publicized celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Rides.

It was a day to celebrate graduates' accomplishments, and Rep. John Lewis made it clear he wanted to do just that when he spoke May 7 at the 100th University of Mary Washington Commencement. But on that nearly perfect May morning, the man from Georgia came to Ball Circle for personal reasons, too.

Exactly 50 years earlier, Lewis, James Farmer, and others risked their lives to ride Greyhound and Trailways buses into the Deep South as part of a strategy called the 1961 Freedom Rides. Though they were beaten and imprisoned, though buses were bombed, the Riders never gave up on America's promise of freedom for all.

Lewis stood before the graduates, sporting a black cap and gown adorned only by a bright yellow UMW Freedom Rides button. In the booming cadence of the Southern Baptist preacher he had trained to be, he spoke.

"I am so pleased and delighted that your president invited me to be here to join you as you celebrate the legacy of one of your great professors, one of the 'Big Six' leaders of the civil rights movement, James Farmer, and to help you commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Rides."

UMW was closing a semester of exploring the rarely told history of the Rides that ultimately struck down Jim Crow laws ruling interstate transportation in the Deep South. The architect of the strategy was James Farmer, UMW distinguished professor of history and American studies, who died in 1999. "Dr. Farmer remains a revered figure at this University today," said President Richard V. Hurley.

Lewis, also one of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders, told the UMW students that 50 years earlier, he'd had a lot in common with them. He was 21, had all his hair, and was a few pounds lighter.

But he did something uncommon at that time: He left college in Nashville to get on board the Freedom Rides.

Lewis – who at age 23 spoke before hundreds of thousands at the March on Washington – had a message for the students, for their teachers, for their president, for their board. His resonant baritone swelled with each word as he said, "No other university – no other college in America – is pausing like you have to celebrate and commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Rides."

Then the great voice fell silent, and Lewis held the gaze of the students. He raised his hand and held it firmly to his heart before he spoke again, softly.

"So I come here to say, 'Thank you. Thank you.'

"The University of Mary Washington is a bright light in the education of all of our citizens about the issues of civil rights, social rights, and human justice. You have discovered that the cause of civil rights is the legacy of *all* people. We *all* must play a role in developing a just society."

Lewis called the graduates to do no less than the young Freedom Riders had done: change America; change the world. And he told the young people before him that they, like the Riders, should never give up – keep their eyes on the prize.

(Read more of Lewis' speech in "Closing Column," page 72.)

As Lewis spoke his last powerful words, the crowd of 5,000 rose to its feet. Applause thundered again when the rector of the Board of Visitors, Daniel K. Steen, conferred on Lewis a doctorate in humane letters.

Among the graduates that day were UMW's first Afghan students, **Zahra Noor Koshani** and **Nilab Sadat**. Selected by the nonprofit organization Initiative to Educate Afghan Women, they were able to come from Kabul in 2007 to study at UMW.

Fredericksburg-area philanthropist Doris Buffett stepped up to pay $20,000 annually for the women's expenses. UMW absorbed the rest of the cost. Both women majored in economics and Middle Eastern studies; Sadat also studied international affairs.

Buffett was on hand at commencement not only to cheer on the young women but also to hand each her diploma. And when she did, the crowd reacted in resounding and heartfelt applause.

For Sadat, the day was especially meaningful because her mother, Laila Sadat, was able to fly from Kabul to witness her daughter's milestone.

Another UMW graduate was notable because he *didn't* attend Saturday's commencement. When Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Richard Finkelstein read the name of candidate **Charles Reed Jr.**, Finkelstein told the

Commencement Kudos

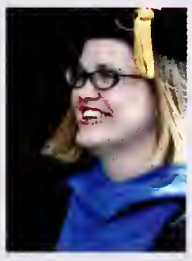
UMW presents its top honors during the graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies. This year, during the May 6 and 7 ceremonies, UMW presented the following awards.

The **Colgate W. Darden Jr. Award** is presented to the student with the highest grade-point average in the four-year undergraduate program.

Stacey Lynne Aylor *of Spotsylvania County, who finished with a grade-point average of 3.992*

The annual **Grellet C. Simpson Award**, which generally is given to a senior member of the faculty, honors excellence in undergraduate teaching.

Teresa A. Kennedy*, professor of English and chair of the Department of English, Linguistics, and Communication*



The annual **UMW Alumni Association Outstanding Young Faculty Member Award** is presented to an exceptional member of the faculty who has served the institution for at least two, but no more than five, years.

Krystyn R. Moon*, associate professor of American studies*

The **Mary W. Pinschmidt Award**, selected by the graduating class, goes to the faculty member students feel they will most likely remember as the professor who had the greatest impact on their lives.

Chad Murphy*, assistant professor of political science*

The **Outstanding Graduate School Professor Award** is presented annually to an exceptional full-time faculty member who demonstrates excellence in teaching and professional leadership, and who has taught at UMW's Stafford campus for at least two years.

Laurie B. Abeel*, associate professor of education*

ABOVE TOP – The Class of 2011 was all smiles for the May 7 commencement. ABOVE BOTTOM – Left: A parent captures a proud moment. Middle: Undergrads used Spirit Rock to cheer on their schoolmates. Right: Philanthropist Doris Buffett helped Afghan Nilab Sadat attend UMW. NEXT PAGE – Top: Graduate-degree candidates file into George Washington Hall. Bottom: Speaking at Friday night's graduate student commencement ceremony, U.S. Rep. Bob Filner of California, an original Freedom Rider, reminded candidates of their power to shape the future.

audience that the business administration major was unable to attend because he had committed to participate in the PBS 2011 Student Freedom Ride.

PBS' *American Experience*, which produced the film that was shown on campus as part of the UMW Freedom Rides commemoration, selected students from across the United States to travel by bus with some of the original Freedom Riders to retrace the route of the 1961 Ride. PBS chose Reed and 39 other students from among more than 1,000 applicants. Reed was the only one representing a Virginia university.

Sunday morning – the day after commencement – the PBS bus left Washington, D.C. First stop: UMW's Campus Walk near the bust of James Farmer. There, in front of the memorial to Farmer and amid remarks about Farmer and the Freedom Rides, Hurley and Finkelstein conducted a brief, one-student commencement. Hurley handed Reed his diploma and delivered a bear hug. Reed's fellow student riders, reporters, and original Freedom Riders from the bus erupted in cheers. (Learn more about Charles Reed Jr. and the PBS 2011 Student Freedom Ride on page 28.)

UMW's exhilarating celebration of Farmer and the Rides left many stories and lessons for students to ponder. The lesson that Lewis brought to Saturday's undergraduates was perseverance; Freedom Rider and U.S. Rep. Bob Filner came to Friday's graduate commencement ceremony with his own experience. Believe in possibilities, he told the candidates.

Like Lewis, Filner left college for the Freedom Rides and endured the Deep South summer of 1961 in Mississippi's Parchman prison. The "searing, incredible" experience of spending 60 days in the maximum-security penitentiary formed students like themselves into the civil rights leaders of his generation, he told the graduate candidates.

"We did not make America perfect, but those 300

The Greening of the Gowns

What to do with gowns after 100th UMW Commencement? Throw 'em in the compost pile!

For the first time, graduates' caps and gowns were made of acetate fabric fiber that uses natural wood sourced from renewable, managed forests. Scientific research shows the material decomposes in soil in one year.

and more students changed American history. Through nonviolent action, like James Farmer taught here, we refused to meet violence with violence. We met violence with love," Filner said. "And we came out of that experience thinking you *can* change America."

His generation had acted, he told graduates, and the time had come for a new generation to believe in its power to better the country.

"You, as leaders, should be the agents of that change," Filner said. "You have a major role in deciding what the future of America will be."

– *Neva S. Trenis*

By Degrees

UMW held its 100th annual commencement and awarded 1,295 degrees at two ceremonies, May 6 and 7, 2011.

Friday evening, May 6: U.S. Rep. Bob Filner spoke to a gathering of about 1,300 people in Dodd Auditorium at the ceremony to award graduate degrees.

The University awarded 252 master's degrees. Among them were:

- 77 master of business administration degrees
- 134 master of education degrees
- 29 master of science in elementary education degrees
- 12 master of science in management information systems degrees

Saturday morning, May 7: U.S. Rep. John Lewis spoke to a gathering of about 5,000 people in Ball Circle at the ceremony to award undergraduate degrees.

The University awarded 1,043 undergraduate degrees. Among them were:

- 450 bachelor of arts degrees
- 42 bachelor of liberal studies degrees
- 92 bachelor of professional studies degrees
- 459 bachelor of science degrees

Thaden '02 Is **Director of Alumni Relations**

Mark J. Thaden '02

Mark J. Thaden '02 added a new dimension to his Mary Washington connection, taking over as UMW's director of alumni relations in June.

Thaden began his career at his alma mater, becoming Mary Washington's assistant director of annual giving the same year he graduated. In that role, he directed UMW's Phonathon and Senior Challenge programs, worked on direct mailings, and assisted with special events.

From there, he served as annual fund coordinator for the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation and director of development and alumni relations at the University of Virginia's Madison House. Most recently, he spent 2 1/2 years as U.Va.'s assistant director of regional engagement.

During his time as a student at Mary Washington, Thaden was a member of Circle K, served as treasurer of PRISM, and volunteered as an assistant teacher with the Head Start program. He received his MBA from Averett University in 2008.

A member of various professional organizations, including the Virginia Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and the Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce, Thaden enjoys hiking, fishing, camping, and boating. He hails from Annapolis, Md., but his immediate family now resides in Wilmington, N.C.

Thaden succeeds **Cindy Snyder '75**, who held the title of Mary Washington director of alumni relations for more than two decades. Snyder continues her close involvement with UMW graduates in her new role as the school's first director of national alumni engagement.

College of Education Hosts **Grade-A Graduate**

Michelle L. Howe Pearson '91

All teachers are on the front lines of education, according to **Michelle L. Howe Pearson '91**, and they are changing lives. As the 2011 Colorado Teacher of the Year, she knows her subject.

Pearson returned to the University of Mary Washington in April to speak at the inaugural College of Education (COE) Educator in Residence Lecture and Celebration, where she addressed more than 100 graduates, many of whom are already teaching.

"Every one of you is a teacher of the year," Pearson said. "Every single one of you makes a difference to a child every day, every week."

Pearson is social studies department chair at Hulstrom Options K-8 School in Northglenn, Colo., where she teaches language arts and social studies. She is UMW's first Educator in Residence, part of a program created to celebrate graduates and give them the opportunity to interact extensively with accomplished alumni in education.

"Current students and graduates get a glimpse of what they, too, can become professionally, building on the foundation our programs have provided," said Mary Gendernalik-Cooper, dean of COE. "We could not have chosen more wisely for our inaugural Educator in Residence lecturer."

Pearson earned a bachelor of arts in geography and history while also fulfilling her teaching certification requirements at Mary Washington. She completed graduate work in continuing education at Delta State University, Adams State College, and Colorado State University.

Pearson's lecture was followed by an awards ceremony and reception.

– Melina K. Downs '05

UMW Orchestra's **Crowning Achievement**

Miss America 2010 Caressa Cameron sparkled as she sang during the UMW Philharmonic Orchestra Celebrity Series performance in April. It was the Spotsylvania County resident's orchestral début.

The Philharmonic also performed its fourth annual Independence Day Spectacular concert on July 4 at Pratt Park in Stafford County. In addition to its full season of on-campus performances during the upcoming academic year, the Philharmonic orchestra, under the direction of Kevin Bartram, will travel to Italy during winter break.

For more information or to find out about joining the trip, go to www.umw.edu/orchestra.

Miss America 2010 Caressa Cameron and Maestro Kevin Bartram acknowledge hearty applause.

Pure Poetry: **Honors for Emerson**

Claudia Emerson

UMW Professor of English and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Claudia Emerson received two prestigious honors this spring. She was one of 12 scribes, also among them Harper Lee, author of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, to be inducted into the Fellowship of Southern Writers. Emerson also was one of only 10 poets awarded fellowships by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, winning a $40,000 grant she plans to use, at least partially, to fund research and writing for a new book project.

Emerson was one of three Virginia poets laureate with UMW connections to perform selected readings from individual works at the Reunion Weekend 2011 Alumni College. University of Wisconsin-Madison Professor Emerita of English **Kelly Cherry '61**, who holds the title from 2010 to 2012, and **Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda '69**, who held it from 2006 to 2008, joined Emerson, who was Virginia Poet Laureate from 2008 to 2010.

A Spot **of History**

The James Monroe Museum hosted an elegant afternoon tea on June 5 in honor of Elizabeth Monroe, who was born June 30, 1768. Monroe was the wife of James Monroe, the fifth U.S. President, and was First Lady from 1817 to 1825. The community event highlighted the Museum's newly renovated Memorial Garden, which is being used for concerts, receptions, and other events. With rosebushes, boxwood, and Carolina jasmine, along with pots of colorful annual flowers around the patio, the garden is both tranquil and serviceable.

Karl Rove to Speak at **Fredericksburg Forum**

Karl Rove

Political pundit Karl Rove will be the featured guest at the Fredericksburg Forum on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2011. Best known for his roles as senior adviser and chief of staff during the presidency of George W. Bush, Rove has been called a "master political strategist." He is a Fox News contributor and a *Newsweek* columnist, writes a weekly op-ed for *The Wall Street Journal*, and is author of *The New York Times* best-seller *Courage and Consequence: My Life as a Conservative in the Fight*. For information about the Fredericksburg Forum or to order tickets ($55 patron, $40 orchestra, $35 general admission), call 540/654-1065, email fredforum@umw.edu, or visit www.umw.edu/forum.

Seacobeck **Survives**

Rumblings of the demise of Seacobeck Hall can be put aside. Though the UMW Master Plan suggested razing "Seaco," President Rick Hurley tabled the demolition last fall, in part because students rallied to save the 1931 structure.

But that didn't relieve the need for larger and updated dining space and a new student center.

A committee of historic preservationists, architects, students, and University representatives explored alternatives and recommended that Chandler Hall be the site of the dining hall/student center. The committee reported that the historical significance of Chandler, built in 1928 and remodeled in 1981, had already been compromised. And there were advantages to placing the new student center on Ball Circle.

The Board of Visitors approved the Chandler Hall location for the center at its April meeting. The 110,000-square-foot structure will be nearly three times the size of Chandler. It will include a small auditorium, a ballroom, offices for student organizations, the University post office, and dining space. The building should be completed during the summer of 2013. There is no public plan about where the departments of psychology and business administration, now in Chandler, will relocate.

Campus Offers **Winning Formula for Calculus Competitors**

Calculus can be fun. At least that is the opinion of Keith Mellinger, chair of the University of Mary Washington's Department of Mathematics. Mellinger and his colleague Randall Helmstutler hosted the University's fifth annual high school calculus tournament at UMW this spring.

Teams of high school mathematicians from across the region, from Fairfax to Orange counties, competed against one another in a *Jeopardy!*-style contest.

"This year we had 34 students and eight team advisers," Mellinger said. "The competition gives us the opportunity to share with the students what potential opportunities are for those who choose mathematics as a career."

The UMW Chapter of the Mathematical Association of America, above, assisted with the University's fifth annual high scho calculus tournament.

New Center Will Bring Big Byte **of Technology to Campus**

When it opens in 2014, the UMW Information and Technology Convergence Center will be a four-story hub of high-tech resources. Pictured here in an artist's rendering, the building will connect to Simpson Library and be designed to easily incorporate future innovations.

The University of Mary Washington's approach to technology is about to get a major upgrade. In May, the Commonwealth of Virginia approved funding for a new 76,720-square-foot Information and Technology Convergence Center, slated to open in fall 2014.

The four-story facility is to be constructed on the Fredericksburg campus along Campus Walk; it will be connected by an enclosed walkway to the second floor of Simpson Library. A hub of network-based resources, the building will be capable of holding massive digital archives.

The center is to house conference and training rooms, teaching space, video and audio production rooms, student collaboration rooms, an "incubator classroom" for testing new technology, and a digital auditorium with seating for as many as 162. Some of the building's spaces will be fixed, while others will be flexible, allowing users to configure areas best suited to specific uses, such as workshops, guest speaker presentations, faculty development activities, and videoconferencing.

Computers, computer plug-ins, flat-screen TVs, projectors, wireless access, and e-stations for checking email and online correspondence are among the gadgets and gizmos the facility is slated to feature. It also is to be constructed with an eye toward the future so that it can easily accommodate new innovations and technological equipment that have yet to be developed.

UMW Associate Provost John Morello, chairman of the center's building committee, expressed his enthusiasm to *The Free Lance-Star*. "This particular site brings a lot of dynamism and exciting possibilities," he said.

Legal Eagles **Flying High**

The UMW Mock Trial Team came home with trophies from the American Mock Trial Association National Championship in Washington, D.C.

In only its second year, the UMW Mock Trial Team posted impressive wins over the likes of University of Virginia, American University, the College of William & Mary, and Georgetown University. For their efforts, two members were recognized for their performance at the American Mock Trial Association National Championship in Washington, D.C., this spring.

Chapin Fausel '12, who studies political science, received an Outstanding Attorney Award. Economics major **Monique dela Cruz '13**, received an Outstanding Witness Award.

During the championship, team members competed in the first round against the University of Virginia, Georgetown University, and Princeton University. The UMW team won against one of Princeton's teams and tied Georgetown and Swarthmore College. The team qualified to participate in the championship by placing well at the Baltimore Regional Competition in February.

Through competition, the UMW Mock Trial team offers students the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills, public speaking experience, and knowledge of legal practices and procedures. Fredericksburg-area attorney Ghislaine Storr-Burks is head coach. Chad Murphy, assistant professor of political science, is adviser and assistant coach.

The trial team is sponsored by the Department of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion. The department created a mock trial practicum so students could gain academic credit as they practice and compete.

Partnership Designed to **Boost Regional Economy**

Meta Braymer

Some of the best work-related ideas don't happen *on* the job, but rather *on the way to* the job. That's what happened for UMW President Richard V. Hurley, who was behind the wheel on his way to work when he had a brainstorm: develop a University Center for Economic Development (UCED) to assist with efforts in the Fredericksburg region.

The center uses a "one-stop shop" approach, connecting the region to UMW faculty and students who can help with business needs and economic initiatives. In July, UMW embarked on a five-year partnership with Fredericksburg Regional Alliance (FRA), which is charged with finding funding for the center, offering student internships, and allowing the University access to its demographic software and international connections.

The FRA, which is to lease office space from the University of Mary Washington Foundation, will move in the fall, along with the UMW Small Business Development Center, to UMW's Eagle Village, across U.S. 1 from the Fredericksburg campus. Meta Braymer, in her new role as vice president for economic development and regional engagement, oversees the unit.

FRA President Gene Bailey said he expects the UMW-FRA combination to be a "formidable economic development force" for attracting businesses and higher-paid jobs to the region, which includes Fredericksburg and Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford counties.

Alumnus Is New **Director of James Monroe Museum**

Scott Harris '83

When the James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library needed a new director, it looked to a Mary Washington graduate. **Scott Harris '83**, who studied historic preservation and history, took the position July 1. Harris had been director of Virginia's New Market Battlefield State Historical Park.

The state owns the James Monroe Museum, and the University of Mary Washington administers it. Harris told *The Free Lance-Star* that the connection with his alma mater makes the position "especially meaningful" and that his duties will include working with the University to prepare for the bicentennial of the presidency of James Monroe, who took office in 1816. Harris also told the newspaper he plans to work with UMW history and historic preservation students.

Fredericksburg's James Monroe Museum is the nation's largest repository of Monroe artifacts and documents.

Harris succeeds John Pearce, who served as the museum's director for 14 years. Pearce came to Mary Washington to teach just one year after Harris graduated.

At New Market Battlefield, Harris administered a 300-acre Civil War site that included a museum and a restored 19th-century farm. He has served as director of historic resources for Manassas and curator of the Manassas Museum, worked as a consulting historian and historical interpreter, and taught as an adjunct instructor in historic preservation at UMW and in history at Northern Virginia Community College.

In addition to a bachelor's degree from UMW, the Shenandoah Valley native has training in historical administration and holds a master's degree in history from the College of William & Mary.

Culture **Bash**

More than 4,000 people migrated to the University of Mary Washington in April for the 21st annual Multicultural Fair. A taste of traditions from around the world, the festival featured food, crafts, children's activities, and a melting pot of entertainment, including performances representing 15 international cultures. The "child-eating dragon," pictured here, is a Chinese tradition.

International **Ties**

UMW President Richard V. Hurley traveled to Greece in June to deliver the commencement address at the American Community Schools of Athens.

The schools and UMW have entered into an innovative academic partnership that allows ACS Athens students to earn college credit at Mary Washington for work completed at home. Also, several graduates from ACS Athens have been accepted for enrollment at UMW.

Hurley's speech was at the request of Stefanos Gialamas, pictured above right, president of American Community Schools of Athens. Gialamas plans to be in Fredericksburg on Sept. 30 for Hurley's inauguration as the ninth president of UMW.

Civic Service Lands UMW on **U.S. President's Honor Roll**

Hours volunteered by members of UMW's Community Outreach and Resources (COAR) group during the 2010-2011 academic year: more than 7,859.

Number of UMW students who participate in COAR: about 450.

Value of COAR's civic service to the Fredericksburg community: incalculable.

For its civic-minded contributions, the University of Mary Washington earned a spot on the U.S. President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2010-2011, marking the second consecutive year UMW has made the list. The recognition was awarded to COAR for its commitment to service learning, civic engagement, and volunteerism.

Among the 20 Fredericksburg-area agencies, schools, and hospitals aided by COAR's efforts are the SPCA, Stafford Junction, Heritage Park, Bragg Hill Family Life Center, Friends of the Rappahannock, and Habitat for Humanity.

The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll awards are presented by the Corporation for National and Community Service in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Campus Compact, and the American Council on Education.

Keeping **Students No. 1**

Fred A. Pierce III

At UMW, a top-notch education means more than time in the classroom. It means giving students the best, from their first contact with the school through graduation – and beyond.

With that goal in mind, in July the University brought on Fred A. Pierce III to serve as associate provost for enrollment management and student services.

Pierce will help UMW deliver a comprehensive, coherent suite of services to students. To further that goal, he oversees the offices of academic services, admissions, career services, disability resources, and the registrar.

"Fred has emerged from an extensive pool of highly qualified individuals," Provost Jay Harper said. "He joins us at a time when the regional competition for the best students is extremely fierce."

Pierce came to UMW from the University of Tennessee College of Business Administration in Knoxville, where he was director of undergraduate programs.

At UT, he managed the business college curriculum development, study abroad activities, academic programs, and support services. Earlier in his 14 years there, he codirected the college honors program, supervised the college "freshman experience," and oversaw professional advising and academic services for more than 5,000 undergraduates. He was assistant director of the UT College of Arts and Sciences advising services, a graduate assistant adviser for advising services, and a graduate teaching assistant for the UT geography department.

For his service, UT gave Pierce the College of Business Administration Outstanding Staff Award for Professionalism in 2004 and 2010 and the Provost's Citation for Excellence in Advising in 2002.

Pierce received a master's degree from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Belk College of Business.

UMW Names **Dean of the College of Business**

Lynne D. Richardson

Just more than a year after the University of Mary Washington College of Business was formed, its first official dean joined its ranks. On July 25, Lynne D. Richardson began her role as chief academic officer of the college that last year united the business programs of the Fredericksburg and Stafford campuses.

As dean, Richardson oversees matters regarding faculty, the curriculum, and academic programs. The college has 24 full-time faculty members and additional adjunct faculty.

"Dr. Richardson brings extensive experience and national prominence as dean," said Provost Jay Harper, to whom she reports. "I expect her to lead a dedicated and excellent group of faculty to regional and national distinction. I anticipate that she will extend and strengthen the connections and partnerships with regional corporations and businesses."

Before coming to UMW, Richardson was dean of the Mississippi State University College of Business, where she also was a professor of marketing. In addition, she has served at the Miller College of Business at Ball State University and at the School of Business at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Richardson received a doctorate in marketing from the University of Alabama, a master of business administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and a bachelor's degree in marketing from Alabama's University of Montevallo.

She succeeds Larry Penwell, professor of management and marketing, who was acting dean of the College of Business for its first year.

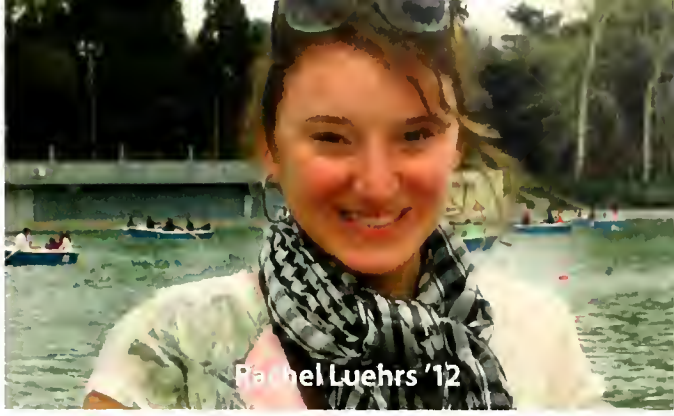
Harper thanked Penwell for his service to the college. "I want to acknowledge the superior work performed by Dr. Larry Penwell, who served ably as the acting dean, creating the initial college infrastructure and plans," Harper said.

Art With **an Edge**

UMW Professor Emeritus of Art Steve Griffin selected works from among more than 100 submissions to be part of the Annual Student Art Exhibition displayed this spring at the duPont Gallery. Griffin also chose two University award winners. Junior **Elizabeth Bradley** received the Melchers Gray Purchase Award for her painting *Over the Edge*, which will become part of the University's permanent collection. Senior **Tenee' Hart** received the Emil Schnellock Award in Painting for *The Goats*. Eight additional students won awards for their creations, and nine students received honorable mentions.

Elizabeth Bradley '12 was honored for her painting *Over the Edge*.

Fellowship Grants **Access to Early Records**



Rachel Luehrs '12

Sun and fun might've been on **Rachel Luehrs**' summer agenda, but the rising UMW senior spent at least two weeks of her college vacation getting serious about her studies.

As one of only 10 students nationwide to receive the SHEAR/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship, Luehrs headed to Philadelphia in June to conduct original primary-source research. The work was in development of her senior thesis on African-Americans and "agency" in early national Pennsylvania and Virginia. Her project aims to show how oppressed people persevere by finding unique ways of outwitting the systems that attempt to quash their social mobility and sense of personal power.

"I have encountered many inspirational stories," said Luehrs, who planned to spend her time in Philly focused on the opportunities that did or did not exist for African-Americans and women in a large northern city in early America.

During seminar sessions in historiography, critique, and individual research, Luehrs was to have access to some of the nation's most highly regarded historical archives and to elite academic scholars at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

The highly competitive SHEAR/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship in early American history is awarded annually to 10 rising seniors who are preparing for thesis projects at liberal arts colleges.

Alumna's Million-Dollar Donation Will **Advance International Learning**

A 1972 alumna has made a $1 million bequest to encourage and support the University of Mary Washington's study abroad program. The donor, who is anonymous, wants to help make it possible for more students to study internationally.

The UMW Study Abroad program's Facebook page illustrates student enthusiasm for this style of learning. Students post pictures, videos, and links to blogs about experiences across the globe.

Study abroad allows travelers to brush up on foreign languages, become familiar with different cultures, and collect international adventures. But these travels also enhance résumés, especially in today's tough job market and increasingly global economy.

The UMW Center for International Education administers 16 partner programs and more than a dozen faculty-led excursions. This alumna's generous donation is meant to allow the center to provide even greater opportunities for student study and travel.

President Richard V. Hurley expressed his appreciation this way: "This is a great example of alumni giving back to the institution and creating opportunities for the next generation of students."

UMW students visit Alcazar de Segovia, a medieval fortress in Segovia, Spain.

Lacrosse Player Tapped for **First Team All-America**

All sports photos by Clint Often

Catherine Kennedy '12

Rising senior attacker **Catherine Kennedy** has been named a first team All-America selection by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Association (IWLCA). In just three seasons, Kennedy has rewritten the Mary Washington record book, breaking the season goals and points records in 2011 and breaking the school's career scoring record.

This year, the Baltimore resident scored 115 points on 79 goals and 36 assists, giving her 237 career goals and 71 assists – a career total of 308 points.

The IWLCA recognized 48 student-athletes in Division III by selecting each to play on one of the 2011 All-America teams. Kennedy was honored at the IWLCA National All-American banquet in Pennsylvania in June.

– Clint Often

Pair of Rowers **Part of Scholar-Athlete Squad**

Rising senior **Lindsay Cutler** and **Marielle Gibbons '11** have been named to the 2011 Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association scholar-athlete team. To gain team status, a rower must be in at least her second year of competition, row in at least 75 percent of the college team's races, and post at least a 3.5 cumulative grade-point average.

Cutler is from Springfield, Va., and is pursuing a degree in American studies. Gibbons, who is from West Chester, Pa., graduated with a degree in business.

– Clint Often

Lindsay Cutler '12

Marielle Gibbons '11

Pitcher **Goes Pro**

Parker Talbert '11 signed a professional contract to play for the Alpine Cowboys of the independent Pecos League. He pitched two scoreless innings in his first relief appearance with the team, with two walks and three strikeouts. Talbert becomes the 14th Mary Washington baseball player to sign a professional contract.

In his last season with the Eagles, Talbert, who is from Virginia Beach, went 4-3 with a 2.07 earned-run average. He threw two complete games, and he had 43 strikeouts in 61 innings. Talbert graduated in May with a degree in psychology.

– Clint Often

Parker Talbert '11

Salisbury All-American to **Coach Field Hockey**

Former Salisbury University All-American Lindsey Elliott has been named the new head field hockey coach at UMW. Elliott succeeds Dana Hall, who, after 22 years of coaching UMW field hockey and women's lacrosse, will remain as head lacrosse coach.

"I am pleased to announce that Lindsey Elliott will be our new field hockey coach," Director of Athletics Edward Hegmann said. "I'm very excited about her, and the UMW players who interviewed her are equally upbeat about her becoming their leader."

Elliott was a two-time first team All-American forward at Salisbury, where she won two NCAA Division III national championships and played in four NCAA tournaments from 2000 to 2003. A two-time Capital Athletic Conference Player of the Year, she also was twice named to the all-NCAA tournament team at the final four.

As assistant coach at Salisbury from 2004 to 2007, Elliott was part of two more national championship squads, and the Sea Gulls claimed an 80-7 record during that time, winning four CAC championships.

Elliott, who earned a bachelor's degree in physical education in 2004 and a master of education in 2006, both from Salisbury, came with the highest recommendation of her former coach, Salisbury Head Coach Dawn Chamberlin.

"I'm obviously very excited for this opportunity," said Elliott, who also recently coached at the high school level in the Baltimore area.

Lindsey Elliott

"I'm thankful to Dr. Hegmann and look forward to working with him, Dana Hall, and the other UMW coaches."

Elliott will make her UMW game début when the Eagles host Lynchburg College on Sept. 1.

– *Clint Often*

Goalie Is UMW's First **Lacrosse Academic All-American**

Men's lacrosse goalie **Ryan Kleman '11** was named a 2011 United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association Academic All-America player in May. Kleman, who this season led the Eagles to tie the school record of 11 wins, is the first Academic All-American in UMW program history. He is Mary Washington's nominee for the Capital Athletic Conference Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year and was the starting goalie in the Senior North-South All-Star Game in May, posting six saves and gaining the win in goal.

Kleman, who is from Fairfax, Va., graduated in May with a degree in business.

The U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association Academic All-America team spans all three levels of NCAA men's lacrosse.

– *Clint Often*

Ryan Kleman '11

WHAT SAYS "MARY WASHINGTON" TO YOU?

MARY WASHINGTON'S TOP TEN

By Lisa Chinn '92

An oft-worn cap, purchased at the bookstore more than 30 years ago, says "Mary Washington" to Cedric Rucker '81.

At first glance, the inspiration for this issue's cover story might not seem so special. A ratty old cap, fabric tattered and torn, edges fuzzy and frayed, an outdated acronym sewn into its front. One more time through the washer might be one time too many.

But looks can be deceiving.

"I still wear it to the gym in the morning, and it brings me comfort every day," said UMW Dean of Student Life **Cedric Rucker '81**. He bought the hat from the bookstore the year before he graduated, when the University of Mary Washington was still Mary Washington College.

If a decades-old cap could offer him such enduring nostalgia, Rucker wondered, what do other Mary Washington alumni hold dear? What places and things, what ideas and traditions, make Mary Washington like no other place in the world?

Rucker wanted to touch on this topic when he spoke to students at Junior Ring Week last spring. With their time at Mary Washington ticking away, he hoped to give rising seniors a checklist of sorts – a roster of things they simply must relish before leaving campus. So, he reached out to recent grads for help.

"Your perspectives are valuable," Rucker told fellow alums. "What are the not-to-miss activities or experiences that one should fit in before one's Mary Washington chapter concludes?"

UMW Magazine put its own spin on the dean's idea, starting with the input Rucker shared and adding feedback from queries magazine staff pitched through email and Facebook. These calls for your thoughts conjured up a whirlwind of memories, from painting messages across Spirit Rock to watching baseball games at the Battlefield.

It's impossible to name all the things that make Mary Washington special, but we at the magazine hope you'll enjoy this Top Ten.

1 ON THE RIGHT PATH

We know you raced across **Campus Walk** on mad dashes for classes. But did you sit with friends on its benches and shoot the breeze with passersby? Pose for pictures in front of its flower beds? Or were you at Mary Washington when the path that cuts through campus was a public street where "townies" peeled wheels and whistled at women? Whether you hung out there before or after the late 1980s, when the road was shut off to traffic and paved over with brick, here are a few of your Campus Walk memories:

I remember "avoiding the cars (the year before Campus Walk was put in) and fending off the catcalls from the 'Frednecks' and the Marines!"

– Leah Wilson Munnis '89

One thing that stands out in my memory is "the crunch of fall leaves as I walked along Campus Walk."

– Michelle Trombetta '97

"Nothing says Mary Wash to me like spending an afternoon on a bench and just seeing who walks by."

– Sarah Gundle '08

Lynda Richardson

2 MEET ME IN THE MIDDLE

Students played sports on it in the '20s, streaked across it in the '70s, and huddled close seeking comfort there after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks of 2001. From commencement exercises and political rallies to Frisbee and sunbathing, **Ball Circle** is smack in the middle of campus and at the center of student life. Once an athletic field, this sidewalk-encircled sanctuary of sunshine and grass has seen it all.

BALL CIRCLE THROUGH THE DECADES

'20s Students practiced sports such as tennis and field hockey here.

'30s In 1933, it became the new center of campus with the completion of Virginia Hall's third and final section.

'40s The Terrapin Club – some members in two-piece suits! – practiced synchronized swimming just off the circle in Lee Hall pool.

'50s Even on warm, sunny mornings, women could be seen dashing across in knee-length raincoats. It wasn't surprising to students required to wear skirts or dresses – the rain gear hid rolled-up trousers or pajamas.

'60s Mandatory chapel attendance ended, and Ball Circle became home to its carnival-style replacement, "Religious Emphasis Week."

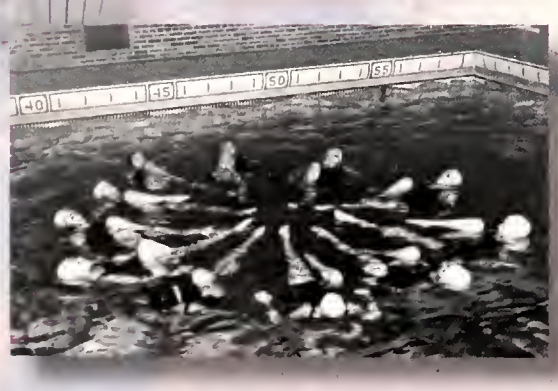
'70s During the 1979 Iran hostage crisis, students led a protest demanding the release of American prisoners.

'80s A snowball fight ensued on the circle in 1987 that was so grand it was covered by B106 radio.

'90s In 1992, five guys started a snow-streaking tradition, running a lap around Ball Circle and diving into the snow wearing nothing but smiles.

'00s Ball Circle was the site of candlelight vigils after the terrorist events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the Virginia Tech massacre of 2007.

'10s The 2011 Freedom Rides bus exhibit graced the site, marking the 50th anniversary of the famous civil rights strategy designed by James Farmer.



For decades, the Terrapin Club perfected synchronized swimming just off Ball Circle in the basement of Lee Hall.

Students and visitors gather in front of Virginia Hall for 1955 commencement on Ball Circle.

Things got serious in 2007 after the Virginia Tech shootings, when students held a vigil for their counterparts in Blacksburg.

HUNGRY FOR A CHALLENGE? TAKE THIS MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUIZ TO SEE HOW MUCH YOU KNOW ABOUT "SEACO":

For what was Seacobeck named?

A. An Indian village that once occupied the site
B. A generous donor
C. One of Mrs. Bushnell's family recipes

The building was erected on the site of what former school project?

A. A garden tended by agriculture students
B. A stable for the Cavalry Troop's horses
C. A sampling ground for geology students

What were some of the fancy features Seacobeck showcased when it first opened?

A. Chippendale mirrors and Persian rugs
B. A collection of Rembrandt paintings
C. Crystal chandeliers and mahogany tables

Though President Hurley nixed the plans, why was Seacobeck recently in danger of being razed?

A. To make room for a new student center
B. To make room for an addition to the Ridderhof Martin Gallery
C. Complaints about the food

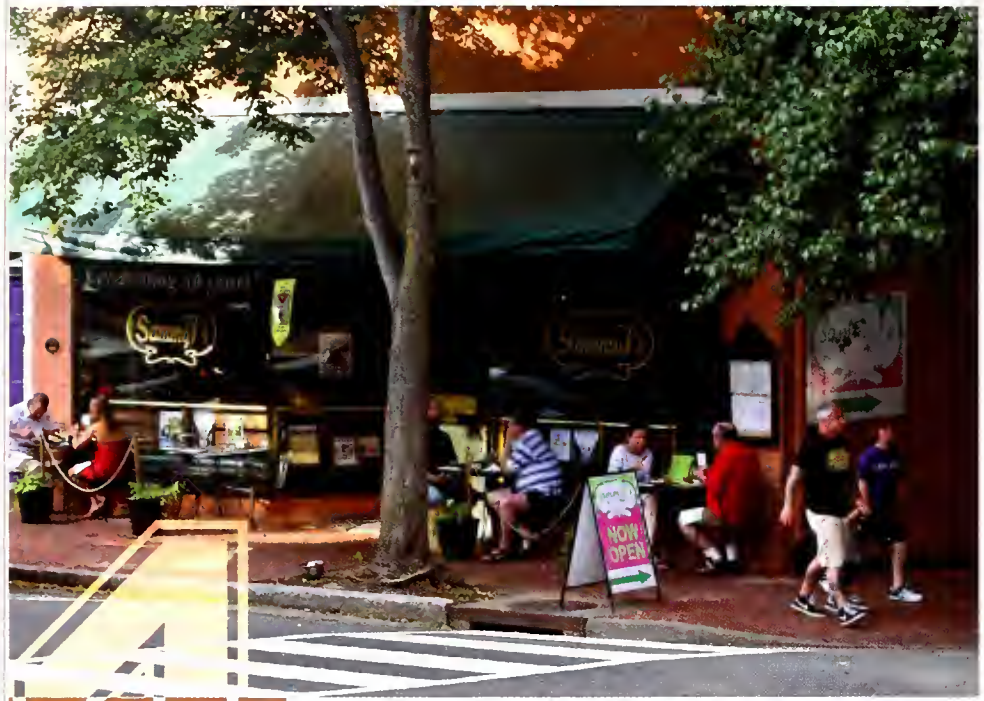
Answers: If you got straight A's, you're at the head of the class!

Seacobeck's decorations and traditional Thanksgiving feasts have given generations of students a taste of home.

3 SAVOR T·H·E MEMORIES

Seacobeck Hall has come a long way since its showy grand opening in 1931. Generations of students have slipped inside Seacobeck to munch and to mingle. In the early days, they dined at assigned tables with a senior as "hostess," they learned which direction the soupspoon should glide across the bowl, and they minded their manners lest Mrs. Bushnell serve up a tongue-lashing. Later classes "borrowed" trays for makeshift snow sleds and partied away the weekends at keggers in the basement. Today, students choose between milk from a bean or a cow, and you might find them texting on iPhones over sushi and gelato. Perhaps **Lisa Harvey '86** put it best: "The dining hall experience really brought everyone together and created a family-type atmosphere."

You might have gone to Mary Washington if you've had a Camper's Special from Sammy T's, below.



Norm Shafer

4 OUT OF BOUNDS

The beauty of the Mary Washington campus is a major draw for students, and the treasures that lie just beyond school grounds are the icing on the cake. With historic attractions like George Washington's boyhood home and key Civil War battlefields; quirky downtown businesses like Corky's and Sammy T's; and the winding Rappahannock – the longest free-flowing river in the Chesapeake Bay watershed – **Fredericksburg** has much to offer, minus the big-city hustle and bustle. Here are some of your thoughts about wringing the most out of fabulous Fredericksburg:

"Tour Fredericksburg - amazing history is alive blocks from your dorm. Walk the battlefields - sense what was happening on ground you now casually tread."

–Mary Bird '77

"Walk downtown, get to know the stores and restaurants. It's great to have such a charming city within walking distance."

– Erika Giaimo Chapin '98

"Kayaking down the Rappahannock River ranked high on my list of experiences."

– Kati Engle '07

5 A MATTER

No matter how far college dining has come, sometimes Seacobeck just can't cut the mustard – or the custard – or the barbecue. Off-campus culinary legends **Carl's** and **Allman's** each have reputations that reach far beyond the 'Burg and a history of satisfying college students' appetites. If you braved long, curving lines for soft, swirly ice cream at Carl's, you might be a Mary Washington alumnus. If you stared down a pig for an Allman's barbecue sandwich – even if it was a mounted dusty, tusky boar's head the staff call "Lucy" – you might be a Mary Washington alumnus.

Reza Marvashti

FOUR COLD, HARD FACTS ABOUT CARL'S FROZEN CUSTARD:

- It's been listed on the National Historic Register since 2005.
- Carl's opened in 1947 in an abandoned gas station and restaurant, and it served just three flavors – chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry – the same three flavors it serves today.
- Founder Carl Sponseller passed away in 2005, and now Carl's nieces and nephews run the popular stand. And, just as in the old days, it still closes the Sunday before Thanksgiving and reopens the Friday of Presidents Day Weekend.
- The original 1940s-era Electro-Freeze machines still pump out ice cream in 120-gallon batches.

Karen Pearlman

OF TASTE

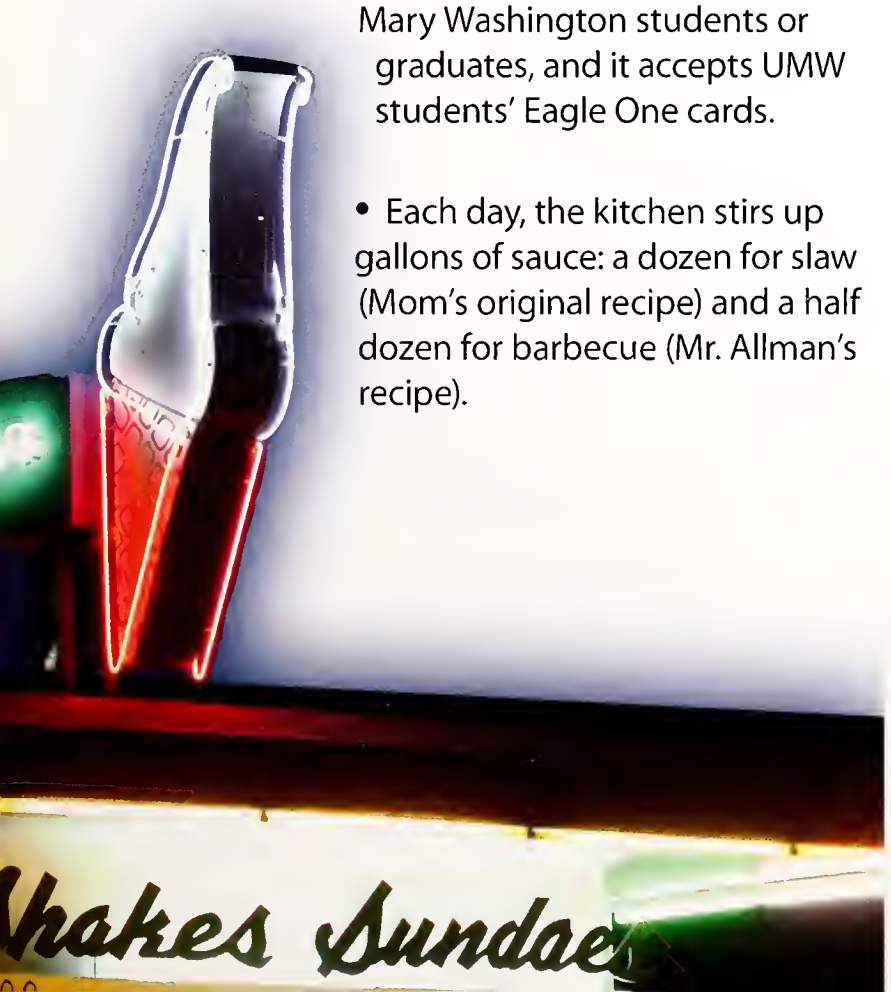
FOUR SLOPPY, SAUCY FACTS ABOUT ALLMAN'S BARBECUE:

- Its seven swirling counter stools were part of the restaurant's original 1954 décor.

- Mary "Mom" Brown, Allman's locally famous cook, retired in January after 54 years, but she's just a phone call away. She rings up three times a day to make sure things are running smoothly and to check on the precious ceramic pigs she left for customers to enjoy.

- Forty-four percent of Allman's nine employees are Mary Washington students or graduates, and it accepts UMW students' Eagle One cards.

- Each day, the kitchen stirs up gallons of sauce: a dozen for slaw (Mom's original recipe) and a half dozen for barbecue (Mr. Allman's recipe).



President Hurley is happy to chat with students on campus.

Norm Shafer

6 TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL

They could be intimidating, with their degrees and expertise, but Mary Washington professors are known for their welcoming ways, open-door policies, and long-lasting relationships with students. UMW grads say they remember **friendly faculty members** who always were willing to lend an ear. Even many of Mary Washington's presidents have been admired for their warmth. The first, Edward H. Russell, inspired a student-written poem that starts, "Mr. Russell is a great man; Mr. Russell is a pearl." Later, the good-natured group would include William M. Anderson Jr., beloved – and often seen – campus wide for more than two decades, and UMW's current top dog, the approachable Richard V. Hurley. Here's some of what you had to say about Mary Washington's lovable mentors:

"Class sizes were small, so you were able to get to know your professors and could ask for help if needed."

– Dorothy Held Gawley '50

"Whenever you see President Hurley, say 'hello.' He really loves this place and dedicates himself to making it the best possible place for you and your classmates."

– Cedric Rucker '81

"Take advantage of the relationships you have with your teachers. Never would I have thought that critical teacher my freshman year would become my mentor and friend that I came to respect so much"

– Elizabeth Jennings '09

7 SO MUCH DRAMA

Lynda Richardson

Since 1923, when it was nestled into a nook in the woods, Mary Washington's **Amphitheater** has seen many things – senior plays, May Day programs, commencement exercises … and better days. It's been expanded, neglected, and revived, but most of all, it has been cherished by students. Whether you stopped by to get lost in conversation with somebody special, carve your initials into the soft bark of a birch tree, or take notes for a favorite professor's impromptu class, the Amphitheater could almost make you believe there was nobody else on campus. In its darker days, it's been called "decrepit," "lopsided," and "treacherous," but somehow it seems the Amphitheater's imperfections are what steal the show.

TIMELINE OF THE TIMELESS AMPHITHEATER

1920s – The evening of its 1923 dedication, more than a thousand people saw a performance of the German fairy tale opera *Hänsel und Gretel* here.

1930s – Each spring, freshmen gathered thousands of wild daises and wove them into an enormous chain presented here during commencement as a gift to graduates.

1940s – The MWC Band took the stage during a fierce but friendly competition for Devil-Goat Day; beanie-wearing freshmen were relegated to the back rows.

1950s – By the 1954 commencement, renovation had added 1,000 new seats, a larger stage, dressing rooms, and a lighting system.

1960s – To celebrate May Day, an orchestra played as students in white Grecian dresses danced for the May Court.

1970s – A concert here raised funds for a 1970 student anti-war protest march to Washington, D.C.

1980s – The Amphitheater hosted live music, such as by the Charlottesville trio SGI. *The Battlefield* wrote of their concert, "the event forecasted some wild weekends to come."

1990s - The Board of Visitors allocated $40,000 in 1997 to make the arena safe but not modernize it.

2000s – Cupid visited the site for at least two clandestine weddings.

2010s – The historic preservation department hosted a cleanup to protest possible demolition, which was prompted by a column-toppling incident.

FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

Nic Tan

Built in 1987, **the fountain** in front of Monroe Hall is both a meeting place and a mischief-maker. Each year when the weather turns warm and it bubbles to life, the fountain invites a flurry of tomfoolery. Students use it as a swimming hole under the cover of darkness, prank friends by tossing them into it, and get grounds workers fuming by pouring in bubbles, colors, and gels. But a fountain-side gathering with a more somber tone took place after the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre when, in an act of camaraderie, Mary Washington students used Gatorade powder to turn the water Hokie orange.

TOP FIVE THINGS STUDENTS HAVE PUT IN MONROE FOUNTAIN:

1. Pennies
2. Soap bubbles
3. Food coloring
4. Themselves
5. Friends

The fountain is awash with stories such as those of a Halloween prank, top, and its use as a bathing hole for students participating in the Two Dollar Challenge, center. Most days, though, its ever-changing waters are a soothing background for the life of the campus.

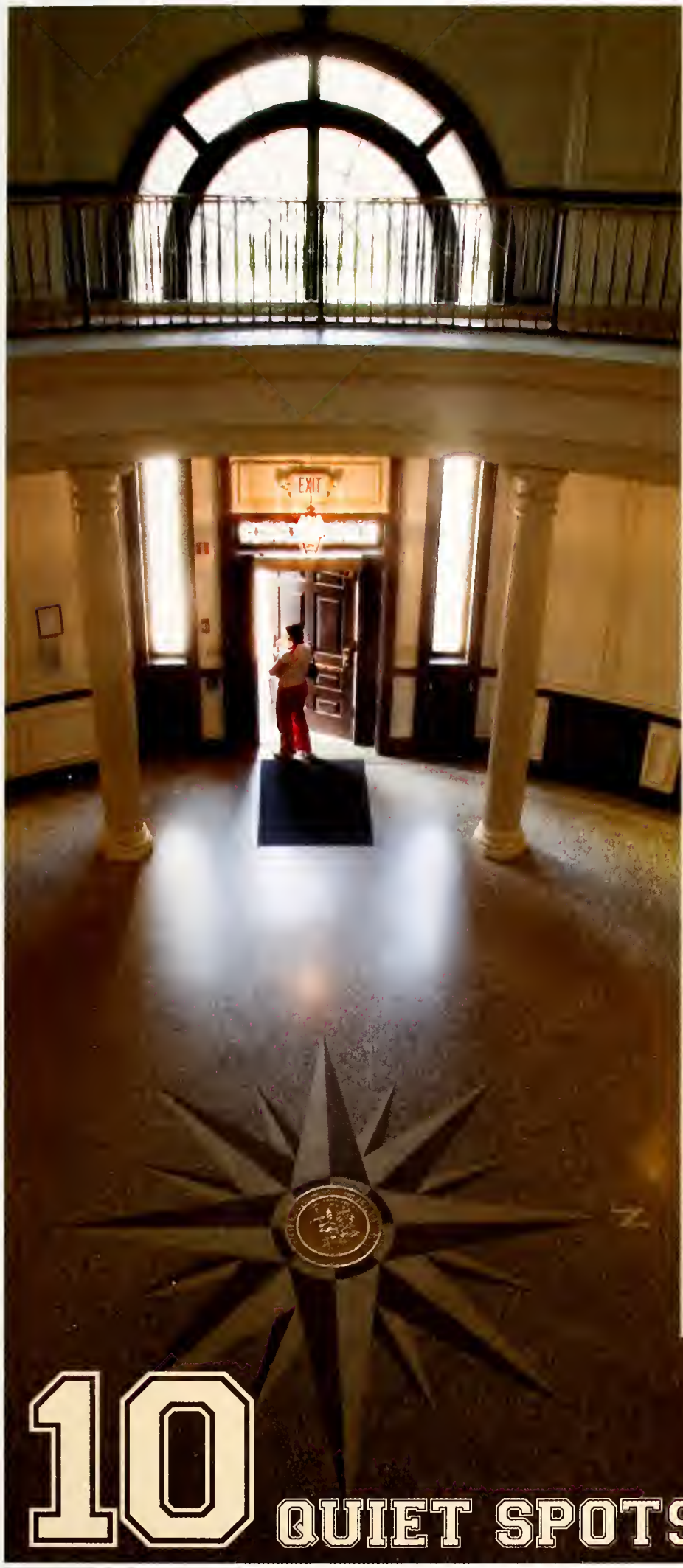
All photos on this page by Norm Shafer.

CONQUERING THE WORLD

As Mary Washington traditions go, the **Multicultural Fair** is among the more recent. But since its début as the Multicultural International Festival in 1991, it's been a favorite of students and the community. The capstone event of UMW's Cultural Awareness Series, the University-wide fair draws thousands of visitors to campus each April. Whether students paint children's faces, scarf down pad thai, or belly dance the day away, their involvement illustrates Mary Washington's commitment to an engaged – and engaging – community. And, to having fun!

Look Online: Watch a slide show featuring the sights and sounds of the 21st annual Multicultural Fair, held in April.

Direct your browser to www.umw.edu/newsite/popup.php.



Trinkle Library became Trinkle Hall with the opening of Simpson Library in 1988, but many students still prefer it as a tranquil place to study. This image shows the college seal inside the Trinkle Hall Rotunda.

HOW HARD DID YOU HIT THE BOOKS? SEE HOW WELL YOU CAN UNRAVEL THE SAGA OF MARY WASHINGTON'S LIBRARIES.

What was the very first book acquired by the Mary Washington library?

A. A Hagerstown encyclopedia
B. Macaulay's *History of England*
C. A student's Bible

Just before E. Lee Trinkle Library opened in 1941, where were Mary Washington's library rooms located?

A. Virginia Hall
B. The administration building
C. The first floor of Marye House

Which of these was a Trinkle Library tradition observed until at least the mid-1970s?

A. No pens allowed on the premises
B. No stepping on the college seal
C. No books borrowed on the 13th of any month

What change did librarian Roy Strohl call "a fairly brazen move" in the late 1980s?

A. Removing the card catalog
B. Installing TV monitors in study rooms
C. Taking the library online

Answers: C.A.B.A.

10 QUIET SPOTS SPEAK VOLUMES

There's a reason Mary Washington alums have enjoyed a century of professional success. Despite all their on-campus fun, students have been known to crack a book here and there. From lounging in front of the fireplace in Trinkle to climbing into the storied treehouse study carrel in Simpson (where scholarship wasn't always the activity on tap), UMW grads say they found plenty of **places to study.** Virginia Poet Laureate **Kelly Cherry '61** counts among her most poignant Mary Washington memories "reading in Trinkle especially in the plush leather chairs under lamplight on rainy days."

PBS, producer of the American Experience documentary *Freedom Riders*, sponsored the 2011 Freedom Ride that retraced the 1961 route.

All photos in this story by Norm Shafer.

THE BUS STOPS HERE

PBS picks UMW for first destination of 2011 Freedom Ride re-enactment. | By Neva S. Trenis

UMW's 2011 commencement speaker is a hero to at least one Mary Washington graduate. But that student, **Charles Reed Jr. '11**, missed the ceremony *and* the speech by U.S. Rep. John Lewis.

Only one opportunity was sweet enough to lure Reed away from picking up his diploma and hearing the elder statesman of the civil rights movement – a coveted spot on the PBS 2011 Freedom Ride bus. From more than 1,000 student applicants, PBS chose Reed and 39 others to retrace the 1961 Freedom Rides, a 10-day moving classroom from Washington, D.C., to New Orleans. Along the way, they'd honor the '61 Riders, including Lewis and another of Reed's heroes, the late James Farmer, UMW distinguished professor of history.

Missing commencement, Reed said, was "nowhere near" the sacrifices made by the '61 Freedom Riders. They dropped out of college, they were beaten, they were threatened, and they were imprisoned in pursuit of justice.

And Reed had a rare opportunity to talk one-on-one with the politician from Georgia earlier during Commencement week – before, during, and after an interview the two filmed for *PBS NewsHour*.

"I admire John Lewis so much. I'll never forget that time with him for as long as I live," Reed said. "I asked him

several questions, and he never rushed me; he took his time. He really listened to what I had to say, and he gave me thoughtful feedback."

The quarter-hour PBS segment included footage of Reed on campus as a young student leader, of Mary Washington's 50th anniversary celebration of the Freedom Rides, and of Reed and Lewis talking with journalist Judy Woodruff.

In the interview, Reed's demeanor is calm, but that doesn't hide his awe of Lewis. The younger African-American expressed deep gratitude for the Freedom Riders' bravery. Their selflessness helped give him the opportunity to attend the college of his choice and to ride a Greyhound bus through the South and sit where he pleases. And, Reed said, the Riders showed him that heroic individuals can change history.

"Hearing those words from this young man means a great deal," Lewis told Woodruff. He turned his face to Reed, whose eyes widened as he listened. "It demonstrates that what we're all trying to do, black and white, young and old, men and women, has helped inspire you and other young people like you to get out there and continue what we started."

NewsHour aired the interview Monday, May 16, 2011, the day the PBS 2011 Freedom Ride reached its destination of New Orleans – nine days after Reed, 39 other students, a handful of original Freedom Riders, and journalists from across the U.S. left Washington, D.C., by bus.

Participating in 2011 Freedom Ride meant Charles Reed '11 missed graduation ceremonies. When the PBS bus stopped at UMW, President Hurley had a special greeting for Reed: a one-man commencement and a framed diploma.

First, Honor Farmer

An eager crowd was waiting by the James Farmer memorial on UMW's Campus Walk when the 2011 Freedom Ride arrived. Cheers went up at the sight of the bus, as did cries of "Welcome to Mary Washington!"

Organizers of the 2011 Ride designed the first stop not only to pay tribute to Farmer, the man who devised the Freedom Ride campaign, but also to teach the student riders about him. Then age 41, James Farmer was president of the Congress on Racial Equality – CORE – and one of the oldest Riders. Before his death in 1999, Farmer had told hundreds of Mary Washington students his firsthand story of the civil rights movement.

For UMW, the bus's arrival marked the finale of a full-tilt semester-long celebration of and education about the 1961 Freedom Rides.

As 40 students piled off the bus, President Richard V. Hurley welcomed each personally and shook hands with each one. Greetings and steady applause from the crowd met them, too. Reed emerged to all that, plus a progression of hearty embraces.

Author Ray Arsenault and Freedom Rider Joan Mulholland stepped off the bus; they had visited campus earlier in the spring. Arsenault wrote the book *Freedom Riders*, on which the PBS documentary film *Freedom Riders* was based. He, Mulholland, and other Riders spoke and attended a UMW screening of the documentary in March. Mulholland also spoke at the February opening of the UMW bus exhibit *The 1961 Freedom Rides*.

Others on the bus were original Freedom Riders Ernest "Rip" Patton, Helen and Bob Singleton, and Dion Diamond.

Standing by the bust of Farmer, Hurley honored the professor, who "still is revered at Mary Washington." Others from the community and the University recalled the brilliant, peaceful activist whose classes still rank among the most sought-after in Mary Washington history.

Associate Professor of Communication Tim O'Donnell taught a freshman seminar on Farmer that, four years earlier, had changed Reed's academic trajectory to include both study of Farmer and campus activities that furthered his mission. Now O'Donnell used the lectern

to teach another 39 students about the Presidential Medal of Honor recipient. O'Donnell echoed the sentiments of President Bill Clinton who, when he put the medal around Farmer's neck in 1998, said, "Jim Farmer's never gotten the credit he deserves."

O'Donnell then allowed Farmer to speak for himself. The civil rights giant's booming voice resonated as several excerpts of his recorded lectures were played.

President Hurley ended the ceremony by attending to unfinished University business – Charles Reed still had no diploma.

As he had done the day before at commencement, Richard Finkelstein, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, asked the audience to rise, but this time it was for the conferring of *the* degree – singular – and Hurley presented Reed with a bachelor of science in business.

Afterward, guests headed to George Washington Hall to view *Down Freedom's Main Line*, an exhibit created by a museum studies class, before enjoying a relaxed outdoor lunch. Conversation among students, Freedom Riders, journalists, University officials, and guests produced great stories and awed listeners.

One such story came from original Rider Bob Singleton. He was a graduate student at University of California, Los Angeles, in 1961, and his wife, Helen Singleton, was a student in Santa Monica. They left California by train for Jackson, Miss., where they were arrested.

"We didn't know if we would get beaten or burned, but we answered the call," said Singleton, today an economics professor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. "Jim Farmer was my hero; when he said we've got to fill the jails, I was ready to go."

On the 2011 bus, Bob and Helen Singleton would share with students what they had learned during their lifetime of fighting for civil rights. And, Bob Singleton said, because Farmer was jailed in Mississippi and never finished the Freedom Ride to New Orleans, they planned to make the entire trip.

"This is in honor of James Farmer," Singleton said.

Chatting over coffee and iced tea on that flawless spring day, Mother's Day Sunday, no one seemed eager to leave the company or the campus. But 2011 Ride organizers had a strict and full schedule to keep – they had four more stops in Virginia before the day's end and a similar itinerary the next day in North Carolina.

As they gathered near the bus, the 40 students stood before the sculpture of Farmer. Holding hands, the young people began to sing the freedom song *Buses Are A-Comin'*, which Freedom Riders – Farmer among them – had sung in Mississippi's Parchman prison. Joined by the original Freedom Riders, and then by the crowd, the students ended with a new verse born in the moment: "*Thank you, Dr. Farmer, oh yeah!*"

On Wheels

Each day of the PBS trip brought lessons for Charles Reed and the other students. Freedom Riders told their stories, tailoring what they said to each stop. Ray Arsenault, a passionate expert on the Rides and a professor of Southern history at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, shared his expertise.

With no prompting, the students organized "teach-ins" for one another – short presentations followed by questions and answers about the issues that moved them. Reed said their passions spanned an impressive range – the environment, teen violence, Islamophobia, education, incarceration in the U.S., religious tolerance, homophobia, and more.

"The other 39 students were absolutely brilliant, and I was very, very impressed," Reed said. "When we all got together, it was magnificent, and I was so grateful that I was one of the 40."

Museum exhibits in the South took Reed by surprise. The young man who grew up in New Jersey saw water fountains marked "white" and "colored," preserved as they were so all could see that they were separate but in no way equal.

A 1960s chest-type Coke dispenser was divided by a wall into two coolers. The "white" side advertised soda for five cents; on the "colored" side, you paid twice that. "It was downright shocking," Reed said. "The white people didn't want to even *look* at a 'colored' person as they were getting their drinks."

The 2011 bus visited a lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., the site of the first sit-in demonstration. It stopped at the Martin Luther King Jr. Historic Site in Atlanta and at King's Ebenezer Baptist Church. Students rode into Anniston,

Ala., where Klansmen tried to murder all the passengers aboard a Freedom Ride bus by throwing a firebomb inside. Student riders sat in pews at the First Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala., where, during the 1961 Rides, 1,500 people holed up against mobs of angry segregationists. From the basement there, King, Farmer, and other leaders negotiated through the night with President John F. Kennedy's administration, asking the feds to compel Alabama to uphold national laws.

Before the recent trip, Reed anticipated 10 days of intense education. But he wondered if he would experience an emotional connection with his predecessors.

He got his answer when the students filed into 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. One Sunday morning in 1963, the Ku Klux Klan bombed the church, the center of Birmingham's African-American community. When the smoke cleared, four young girls were dead.

In 1961, Bob Singleton, shown here with Lindsay Cutler '12, was a graduate student at University of California, Los Angeles. Fifty years later, the professor of economics at L.A.'s Loyola Marymount University told UMW students, "Jim Farmer was my hero; when he said we've got to fill the jails, I was ready to go."

UMW welcomed all the riders with open arms but saved the warmest embrace for its own Charles Reed. From more than 1,000 student applicants from across the U.S., PBS chose only 40 for the 2011 ride, Reed among them.

The 16th Street Baptist choir welcomed the 2011 Ride with songs from the civil rights movement. One member was in the choir the day of the '63 bombing. Another lost her best childhood friend to the explosion.

Reed listened and pondered the deep power of the African-American community, which through all the cruel hatred, took refuge in the church and was lifted up by its music. And this music, this day, he said, was extraordinary.

"The voices," Reed said. "I mean, these people could sing."

The young man began to sing along, and he began to weep as the music transported him to the era of the struggle.

His grandmother was in her 50s at the time of the 16th Street Baptist bombing. She loved him unconditionally, Reed said, and, until she died in 2006 at age 96, she worked for the best for her grandson.

"I just thought how happy she would be to see what I am doing right now," Reed said.

He thought, too, of sacrifices made by Freedom Riders for *all* the grandchildren – to give his generation opportunities and dignity. That night Reed wrote in his blog, "As we continue on this ride, I will always remember to appreciate those who have come before me and keep their legacy alive."

Three days later, the 2011 Freedom Ride reached the destination the 1961 Freedom Ride never did – New Orleans. The Crescent City threw a welcome in its singular style, on the street, with a brass band, dancing, cheering, parasols, balloons, and laughter. City officials were there, and TV reporters filmed the moment.

At the Ashé Cultural Center, amid the street fest, doves were about to be released to honor the deceased Freedom Riders. Reed made his way through the throng to Bob and Helen Singleton to ask a favor.

Bob Singleton then walked to the microphone and said, "I release this dove in honor of James Farmer." The bird rose into the sky.

"I wanted to make sure that was done," Reed said. "That was one of the most fulfilling parts of the trip for me, to have one dove released in Dr. Farmer's name."

UMW LIBRARY: THE ENGINE THAT COULD

New librarian thinks it can hold its own in face of powerful, pervasive Web search engines

| By Jack Bales

Rosemary Arneson wasted no time making her presence known at Mary Washington. Soon after her arrival on campus in January, the University librarian – successor to Roy Strohl, who retired last year – had established a Libraries Management Council involving staff members on both the Fredericksburg and Stafford campuses; started blogging about libraries, technology, books, and self-discovery, among other things; begun talking about a coffee shop and other possible changes in Simpson Library to make it even more attractive to students; and set lots of priorities concerning what she wanted to accomplish.

And that was just the first month.

Since those first few weeks, Arneson has pondered even more projects and changes. As she walks around Simpson, she is pleased to talk about them – or any of her numerous interests, many of which she discusses on her blog, *Conversations About the Future*, online at umwlibraries.umwblogs.org. Displaying her lively personality and engaging sense of humor as she roams, Arneson readily puts people at ease. Contrary to images of old-fashioned librarians, she does not engage in "shushing," for she is as quick to ask for others' opinions as she is to offer her own suggestions. Visitors to her office on Simpson's second floor should leave librarian stereotypes at the door.

With Arneson, they just don't stack up. Yes, books and

University Librarian Rosemary Arneson doesn't simply muse about technology, books, and the future of her profession, she creates conversations around them both on her blog and inside the brick-and-mortar UMW Libraries.

literature are important to her. But so are the merits of Facebook, the wonders of her Kindle, traveling (especially the excursions she takes with a group of longtime close friends), quilting, and her pets – Coco the dog and Pookie the cat.

She's most animated when it comes to student support of the UMW libraries. Thousands of students use Simpson Library every week; during her walks around the building, she observes that the carrels, study rooms, and computers are usually crowded, and that students are busy checking out books and asking questions at the reference desk. "The students appreciate this library, and they come here," Arneson said. "That has been a wonderful thing for me."

And it defies conventional thought. A recent article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that "academic libraries have been beset by changes that have led some observers to wonder whether they have a future at all." Library budgets around the country have been hit hard, even as the costs of buying books and subscribing to journal databases continue to soar. The *Chronicle* went on to state: "Search engines have replaced librarians as the go-to source of information for most researchers."

Not at UMW. Google has failed to gobble up library staff members, who are as busy as ever, especially as the number of library users has steadily increased over the past few years. Arneson has made a point of meeting with the staffs at both UMW campuses so that they can ask themselves some hard questions: What are students looking for when they come to the libraries? What is the role of libraries in the digital age? "We need to look at libraries with our blinders off," she said, "and see ourselves as our patrons see us."

If Arneson appears to have hit the ground running at Mary Washington, it may be because she's no stranger to the field of education. She was born in Clemson, S.C., where her father taught physics at Clemson University and her mother was a public school teacher. "My mother started a kindergarten in the basement of our house," Arneson said, "so when it was time for me to enter kindergarten, I just went downstairs."

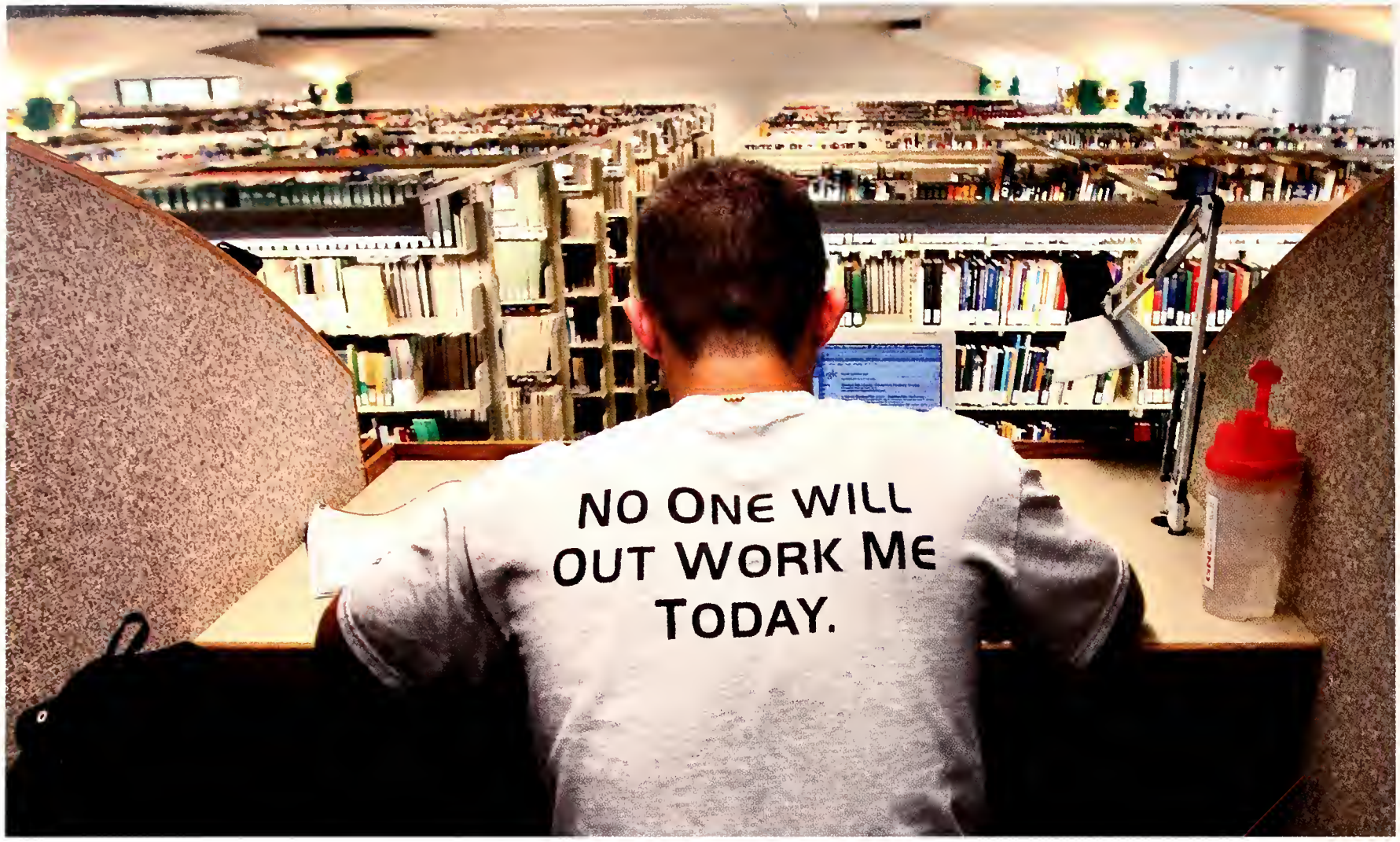
Arneson stayed in Clemson until she left for the University of Georgia, where she majored in television. "I was going to be the next great Barbara Walters," she said, remembering her college career. "That was my ambition. I really had no thoughts about going into library work."

Circumstances, however, would soon change those thoughts. Arneson was married then, and she and her husband moved quite a bit. While living in Gainesville, Ga., she had no opportunity to work in television. But there *was* a job opening at the local public library in its talking books department. (Talking books are audio books for the blind and physically handicapped.)

Although the Stafford campus library, above left, and Fredericksburg's Simpson Library are physically separate, Arneson is working to connect the two through such initiatives as cross-training staff members.

A longtime reader, Arneson found the duties more enjoyable than she had anticipated, and ambitions of a library career replaced those of broadcast journalism. She earned a master's degree at Emory University's School of Library Science and started work at the Library of Virginia.

"I was the pictures librarian," Arneson said. "I dealt



"The students appreciate this library, and they come here," Arneson said of scholars such as this young man in the treehouse, a popular double-decker study carrel on the third floor of Simpson Library.

with photographs, prints, broadsides – anything that was about Virginia or Virginia history, but not in a traditional archival format. These were unique collections. For example, I got to catalog a collection of currency, which was a lot of fun. I got to adapt the rules to all these strange formats."

Arneson learned early on that adapting is an integral part of library work, particularly with technology changing the rules almost daily. She started working with technology in earnest when she moved to Harrisonburg in 1984 to become James Madison University's loan services librarian and coordinator of library automation. That was a critical juncture for libraries. At JMU, she was responsible for phasing out the physical card catalog and changing to an online system. Such automation was brand new at that time, and she felt that "we were out on the leading edge of technology."

Arneson carried her fascination with all things technological to Fairfield University in Connecticut, where she accepted a position that also gave her valuable experience with other aspects of library work. She had realized fairly early in her career that she enjoyed administration, and this was a chance to move to a higher administrative level, with more supervisory and budget authority. After three years, however, she started getting homesick for her native South. In addition, her mother's health was suffering, so she moved closer to home, first to Queens College in Charlotte, N.C., and then to the University of Montevallo, which is the public liberal arts university for Alabama.

It was at Montevallo that she grew to appreciate the ways a public liberal arts university can provide a high-caliber education at less-than-private-school prices. Though Arneson enjoyed her 11 years at Montevallo, her thoughts occasionally returned to Virginia.

"Of course I had known about Mary Washington and some of the people in its library from my JMU days," she said, adding that she thought Fredericksburg would be a good place to live. "Last spring, when I heard that the job was going to be open, I thought long and hard about applying, as I was very happy at Montevallo. I enjoyed my colleagues there and had a great community of friends in the area."

Included among this community were members of the professional organizations in which Arneson has been active

throughout her library career. One of those colleagues recently remarked that Arneson "does not try to be in the limelight, but she makes the whole organization sparkle."

Even with such friendship and respect, Arneson's memories of an earlier visit to Fredericksburg loomed large. "I thought Mary Washington was a comfortable place I would like to be. It had a lot of things that I liked about Montevallo, including a small campus and attractive buildings."

Arneson barely had her bags unpacked and Coco and Pookie settled in Fredericksburg before she set to work. She was immediately and pleasantly surprised by "the way all the library staff members work together, as well as the level of support that the libraries have at the University."

In their ongoing process of soul-searching and examining library services, staff members have asked students what they like about the libraries and what they would like to see changed. Staff members are also investigating how they might make interior spaces more inviting to students.

One innovative idea that has percolated for some time among both students and staff is a coffee bar on Simpson's first floor. Arneson found UMW Dining Services to be excited about the idea, common on many campuses, and plans were soon drawn up. Doug Searcy, vice president for student affairs, is also an enthusiastic advocate. "The library is the heart of our campus," he said. "It seems like such a natural environment for intellectual exchange in a comfortable setting. I can see faculty and students meeting in the library for coffee, to talk about projects or class topics."

With UMW's emphasis on collaborative learning, it is not surprising that students have asked if Simpson can provide more group study areas. "They need areas where they can work on joint assignments, and we need to provide them," Arneson said. "They also need places where they can just get together and talk without disturbing people who are here for the quiet. They appreciate the quiet, studious environment that the library provides."

Arneson and her staff are now looking to see how space can be reallocated to come up with more study and collaboration areas.

Arneson's ideas do not stop at Simpson. She also is exploring opportunities with the library personnel on UMW's Stafford campus. Although Stafford is a separate

HOW UMW LIBRARIES STACK UP:

➤ **The libraries' collections include 390,000 print and multimedia items, 80,000 electronic books, 63,000 print and online journals, and more than 100,000 federal and state government documents.**

➤ **The libraries subscribe to 180 databases, providing:**

- **Access to full-text articles in thousands of periodicals.**
- **Millions of links for research.**

➤ **An average of more than 4,000 people each week entered Simpson Library during 2010-2011 (up nearly 14 percent from 2009-2010, which in turn was an increase of more than 10 percent from 2008-2009).**

➤ **During 2010-2011, librarians on the UMW Fredericksburg and Stafford campuses taught 184 classes on the use of library resources, almost twice the national average.**

library, she believes the two should be more connected and has already initiated cross-training between the staffs.

Arneson believes that technology offers numerous intriguing possibilities for libraries. In preparation for the University's Centennial celebration in 2008, for example, the libraries' Archives and Special Collections collaborated with UMW faculty, staff, and students to scan hundreds of historic photographs, not only making them available online for everyone to enjoy but preserving them for generations to come (see archive.umw.edu). Last year, the Mary Washington yearbook, *The Battlefield*, was digitized; earlier this year, the campus literature and arts magazine, *Aubade*, was launched in digital format. These digitized publications will soon be joined by the alumni magazine and *The Bullet*.

"Imagine you're an alum of Mary Washington living in California," Arneson excitedly said to a visitor. "You can now flip through your yearbook online. And I think that's just great. Mary Washington has a wonderful, wonderful history, so the more of that we can get online the more it helps people outside this community know what this University has been."

Arneson moves easily in the virtual world and gets excited about how it can serve the University. "Imagine you're an alum of Mary Washington living in California. You can now flip through your yearbook online."

A substantial part of UMW is, of course, the faculty, and Arneson is quick to emphasize that "they are going to be a very important part of moving the libraries forward." She has enjoyed interacting with professors through some of the campus committees that she's on and through eating lunch with them informally in Seacobeck. "Faculty know what they want their students to be doing," she said. "We're here to enhance the students' experience, so I really think it's a partnership with the faculty."

As Arneson collaborates with faculty, the libraries staff, and students, she remembers the statement she made during her interview at UMW in the summer of 2010. A library, she said, "serves as a convener to bring constituents to the table." These constituents can be students, faculty, staff, or even townspeople, and the role of the library is to assist them in finding the resources they need. And unlike the ubiquitous search engine highlighted in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* article, librarians can, for instance, help the bewildered student in the first-year seminar class understand the differences between an essay on a personal website and an online article in a peer-reviewed journal.

Eric Gable, professor of sociology and anthropology, is among the faculty who use Simpson Library.

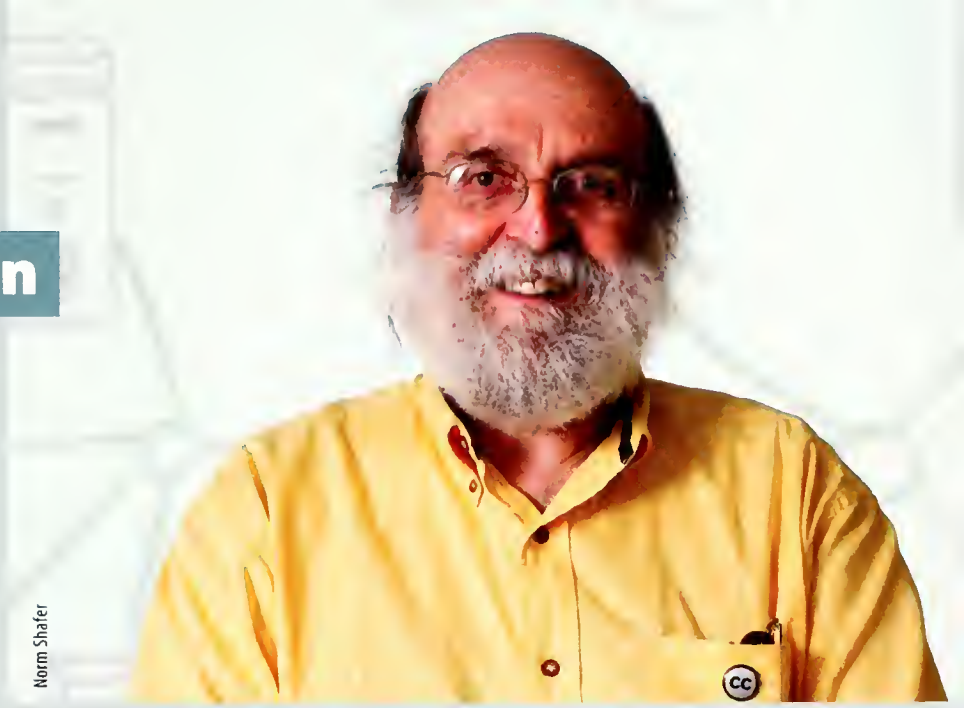
As Arneson would agree, that's certainly one step toward making the whole organization sparkle.

Jack Bales, author of numerous books and articles, is UMW's longtime reference and humanities librarian. He has recently written two articles on the Chicago Cubs for Nine: A Journal of Baseball History and Culture.

Q&A

Ernie Ackermann

By Lisa Chinn '92



Norm Shafer

On any given day, several thousand computers could be at work on the University of Mary Washington's Fredericksburg campus. When Ernie Ackermann arrived in the summer of 1980 to teach math, there was one.

The bulky machine was used by administration in George Washington Hall. Since then, Ackermann, who signed on as Mary Washington's first director of academic computing, has seen – and led – an amazing technological transformation, one that launched UMW into the 21st century.

"At that time, Mary Washington didn't know – and I wasn't exactly sure – what [academic computing] meant," Ackermann said. "But it worked out for both of us."

UMW would début its computer science major the fall after Ackermann was hired, so things had to move quickly. Underground wires were run from that one huge Hewlett-Packard in GW to a bank of new terminals in the basement of Combs Hall, home at the time to the biology department. And Mary Washington's first computer classroom and lab were built there in the depths, just down the hall from fetal pigs in formaldehyde and a tank full of sharks.

It wasn't fancy, but it was a start.

Then-President Prince Woodard gave the go-ahead to buy the school's own computer system, and Ackermann purchased additional computers as the program caught on.

"The room was overflowing. Everybody wanted to take courses," he said.

Ackermann was enamored of math from early in his childhood in northern New Jersey. His degrees – a bachelor's from Montclair State College and a master's and a doctorate from Pennsylvania State University – all are in math. But a computer programming course a friend talked him into taking in graduate school gave Ackermann a new perspective on problem solving.

In his more than three decades at Mary Washington, Ackermann, who now prefers to focus on teaching, has worn many hats, and he's been through a mind-boggling metamorphosis. He brought the Internet to campus, established the school's online presence, and watched everything go wireless. And with a 76,000-square-foot tech center on the horizon, advancements continue.

As always, though, progress hasn't come without cost. As Ackermann paved the way for Mary Washington to excel in technology, the campus came to expect nothing less.

"Up until we connected to the Internet, we could shut that computer down and nobody knew, or nobody cared," he said. "Once we got Internet and email, it just couldn't be down – ever."

What do you like most about UMW? *I like my students, I like the people I work with, and I like the fact that we are trying to be as good as we can be. I'm very sincere about that.*

What would you change about UMW? *One idea would be to have all courses carry one credit and to require that undergraduates earn 32 credits to earn their degrees. It could be a win-win: Students take four courses per semester instead of five, so they can spend more time in in-depth learning; professors teach only two or three courses a semester, allowing them more time to focus on students and their own scholarship.*

How would A your friends describe you? *As someone who enjoys teaching. I'm really happy working on projects where we get things accomplished in teaching and learning. And I enjoy using whatever talents I can to help the community.*

What motivates you? *I get motivated by being able to work with a bunch of people to do something we think is really important. I chaired the University Faculty Council last year for one term and got motivated by feeling like I was contributing to what's going on.*

What inspires you? *I guess because of how I grew up, I can't help but be inspired by people like Martin Luther King Jr., Pete Seeger, and Sonny Rollins. I'm inspired by people who I can see are working to make things better for the community and for the world at large.*

What makes me happy? *That I'm doing a good job and accomplishing the tasks I set for myself. That I'm being a good teacher, a good husband, a good volunteer. It's like that movie by Spike Lee,* Do the Right Thing. *Of course, figuring out what that is isn't always so easy.*

What do you enjoy doing? *A lot of things. I really enjoy teaching. I enjoy volunteering. I enjoy writing. I enjoy music; I've been taking guitar lessons. I enjoy hanging out with my wife.*

What are you afraid of? *I guess I'm afraid of being irrelevant. I think that's probably also what motivates me; if you want to be mundane and just put up with stuff the way it is, you can do that. But that's what I don't want to do.*

What would people be surprised to learn about you? *I don't keep any secrets. I tell everybody everything. But people might be surprised to learn that I've had only one course in computer science.*

Get the Picture?

Music to Our Ears

Letters and emails poured in after we published a 1942 photo (shown bottom right) in the last issue and asked for help identifying the young woman playing the harp.

Perhaps the many ties **Ronna Faulkner Simpson '46** had to Mary Washington contributed to her widespread recognition. With parents who left marks of their own on the school (see family photo below left), the music major's Mary Washington experience was a bona fide family affair.

Her father, Ronald W. Faulkner, came to the college in 1937 to teach music and art. He started a concert and dance orchestra at the school, and established the Mary Washington Marching Band in the 1940s. He died in 1962 but, after a quarter of a century at Mary Washington, left a legacy amplified by the musical talent he passed on to Ronna.

Her mother, Lefa Faulkner, who served as director of dormitories and retired in 1969, helped her husband with the band and hosted post-Christmas concert parties for its members at the family's Fredericksburg home.

Like her parents who worked at Mary Washington, Ronna worked in the campus mail room and elsewhere, according to Ginger Hall of Port Charlotte, Fla., the oldest of Ronna and husband Otho Simpson's five children. Ronna gave music lessons, too, passing her love of the harp on to others.

"We all enjoyed her playing," **Peggy Soucy Mundt '45** wrote in response to our request for information about the 1942 photo. "I always look at harpists to see if it is Ronna."

Sadly, Ronna passed away in 1971 at age 49.

We Rest Our Case

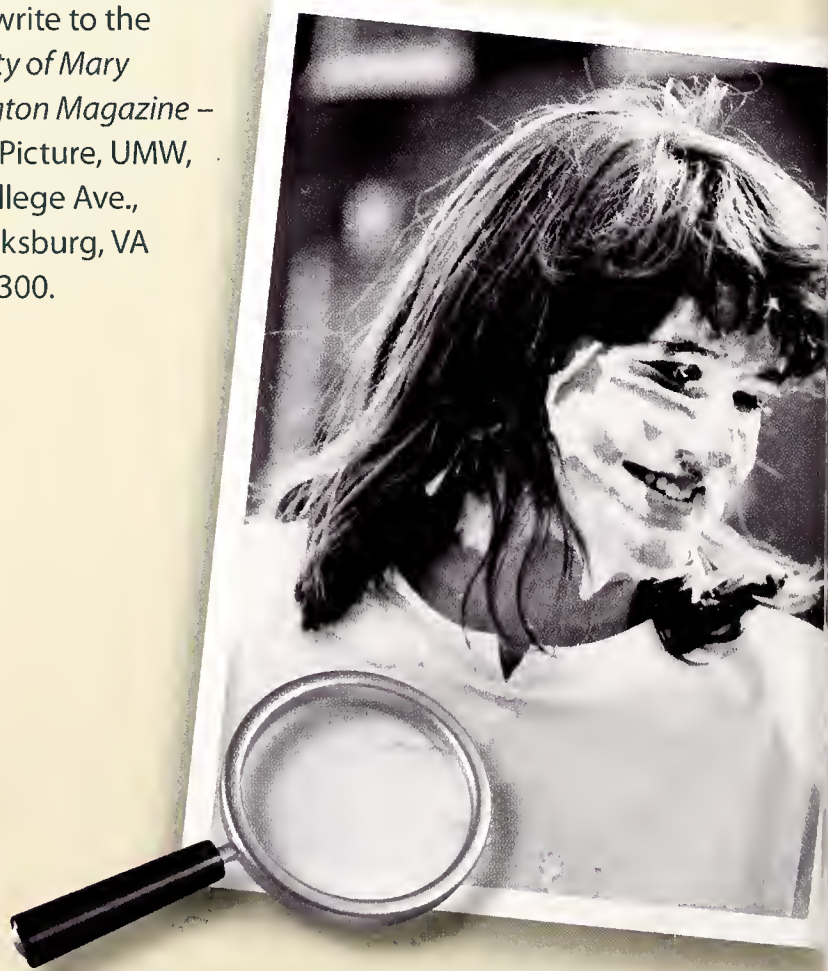
Bonus! As we reported in the last issue, readers recognized pillow wielder **Lois Hartman '62** and her fellow pillow fighter, **Donna Stevens Boyd '62**, in this photo, but the names of the onlookers remained a mystery. **Patricia Gayle Keen Stollberg '62** later wrote to identify herself as the girl with the glasses and the other two ladies on the left of the photo as **Anona Getchell Hogwood '62,** bottom, and the late **Emily Louise Fornes '62**, middle. Both Stollberg and Boyd reported that this pillow fight took place when they were freshmen rooming in Willard Hall.

Give It Your Best Shot!

Lots of odd things happen on Devil-Goat Day, as illustrated in this 1989 photo of a Mary Washington student who joined the festivities. Can you help us figure out who she is and what in the devil she has on her face?

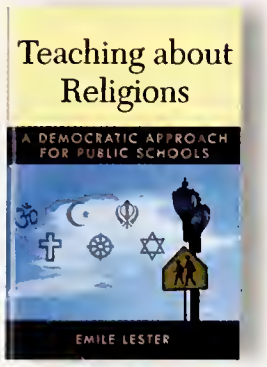
This image is among the hundreds of historic photos in the UMW Centennial Digital Image Archive, an interactive and searchable database that is available to the public at http://archive.umw.edu.

If you can shed more light on this photo, please contact us. Send email to ntrenis@umw.edu (please put GET THE PICTURE in the subject line) or write to the *University of Mary Washington Magazine* – Get the Picture, UMW, 1301 College Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5300.



All of the following books are available in the UMW Bookstore.

Books by **Faculty**



Teaching About Religions: A Democratic Approach for Public Schools

By Emile Lester, UMW assistant professor of political science and international affairs

Emile Lester's *Teaching About Religions: A Democratic Approach for Public Schools* addresses the reluctance of U.S. public schools to bring religion into their programs and the experience of one school system that embraced religious curriculum. The book draws on research conducted on the Modesto, Calif., city school system.

In what the author describes as a religiously diverse and divided community, students were required to take a class in world religions. The book examines the creation of and response to the Modesto course and presents suggestions for incorporating religion into public schools.

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill's Warren Nord wrote, "More than simply a synthesis of existing scholarship, [this book is] an original contribution to the field. [The] major themes are timely, and this book might well contribute to public discussion of important issues in our culture wars."

– Published by University of Michigan Press, March 2011

Best New Poets 2010: 50 Poems From Emerging Writers

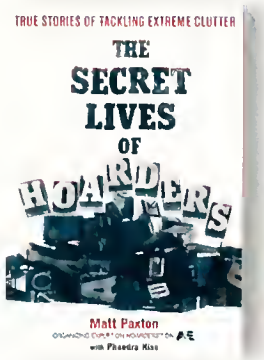
Edited by Claudia Emerson, UMW professor of English and Arrington Distinguished Chair in Poetry

Best New Poets is an annual anthology of 50 poems from emerging writers. The 2010 collection, guest edited by Claudia Emerson, features titles such as Erin Gay's *Portrait Sealed in an Apothecary Jar* and Graham Hillard's *What the Ground Gives*. The anthology includes work from the likes of master of fine arts candidates, professors, and magazine editors, who are nominated by writing programs and magazines or selected from the publication's Internet competition.

The Bloomsbury Review said these poets "prove that American poetry has the strength and vision to move beyond the MFA environment in order to reshape and reflect past traditions."

– Published by Meridian and Samovar Press, November 2010

Books by **Alumni**



The Secret Lives of Hoarders: True Stories of Tackling Extreme Clutter

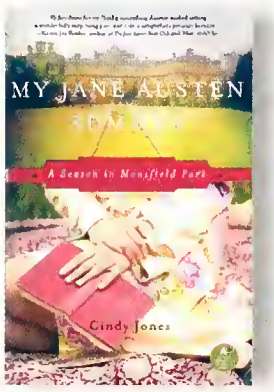
By Matt Paxton '97, with Phaedra Hise

In *The Secret Lives of Hoarders: True Stories of Tackling Extreme Clutter*, author **Matt Paxton '97** provides an organized analysis of the world of hoarding. An expert often featured on the A&E TV show *Hoarders* and owner of the company Clutter Cleaner, Paxton neatly blends personal accounts, research, and images to examine the reasons people hoard, how the epidemic can be overcome, and the cleanup process.

Throughout the book, Paxton incorporates stories of hoarders he has encountered since founding Clutter Cleaner in 2006. The descriptive personal accounts, which are representative of the stages of hoarding and the types of hoarders he outlines, are balanced by factual information.

The book explores stories of "stereotypical" hoarders and of those you might not suspect of such behaviors, including a college professor. The anecdotes and research offer insight into the cluttered and complex subject of hoarding.

– Published by Perigee Books/Penguin Group, May 2011



My Jane Austen Summer: A Season in Mansfield Park

By Cindy Jones '80

My Jane Austen Summer: A Season in Mansfield Park, by **Cindy Sundermann Jones '80**, is the story of Lily, an Austen fanatic who has been dumped by her boyfriend, faced the death of her mother, and been fired from her job for reading on company time.

Invited by a friend to spend the summer at a Jane Austen literary festival in England, Lily seizes the trip as an opportunity to restructure her life. But joining a legion of Austen fans to re-enact the famed author's *Mansfield Park* does not solve Lily's problems. Her difficulties follow her to England, where she must confront her troubles if she wants to fashion a happy ending of her own.

"*My Jane Austen Summer* [has] a nourishing Austen-soaked setting, a ... surprising plot, and Lily, a delightfully peculiar heroine," said Karen Joy Fowler, author of *The Jane Austen Book Club* and *What I Didn't See*.

– Published by HarperCollins, March 2011

What a Wager!

Latin teacher parlays knowledge into spot on national TV

[Cue *Jeopardy!* music.]

Category: *Winning UMW alumni*

Clue: *On TV's* Jeopardy! Teacher Tournament, *this Latin teacher soared through the quarterfinals and semifinals to win $50,000 and the honor of second place.*

Answer: *Who is Lori Kissell?*

Lori Kissell '94 was one of only 15 teachers from across the U.S. chosen to compete on the special teacher tournament of *Jeopardy!*, which aired nationally May 2-13. Besides the prize and the title, the trip fulfilled Kissell's longtime wish to compete on the game show. She has watched it since the 1970s – when Art Fleming was the host and the game included printed clues hidden by squares of cardboard.

The Stafford County resident has taken the prerequisite *Jeopardy!* test many times and has auditioned as often as possible. In fact, *Jeopardy!* tryouts are the only things that have taken her from her students at Liberty High School in Bealeton, Va.

Lori Kissell '94 took second place in the *Jeopardy! Teacher Tournament*, which aired in May. The Fauquier County teacher flew to California to compete.

"They know I've been dying to do this for a long time," said Kissell, who also coaches the school's academic quiz team. "The only days I miss [work] are *Jeopardy!* audition days."

The show contacted Kissell last October and asked her to be part of the teachers' tournament. She gave a resounding "yes" and agreed to keep her participation a secret. The only person who knew was her son, who accompanied her to the taping in Culver City, Calif.

In advance of leaving, Kissell studied, practiced, and packed. She took along the clothes show planners told her to bring. ("No vertical stripes.") Finally, just three weeks before she was to leave, she was allowed to tell her students she had made it to the show.

"Some of my students were as giddy as I was," she said.

Taping began Monday, March 28, and the 15 contestants competed in the quarter- and semifinals – 10 shows filmed in only two days. On the third day, the top three contestants competed in the final rounds, which aired over two days. Kissell beat an English teacher from Ellettsville, Ind., in the finals, but fell to champion Charles Temple, an English teacher from Ocracoke, N.C. Temple won $100,000.

Kissell first appeared on TV May 4. The final round aired May 13, when viewers – including many of her students – learned that she had taken second place.

Jeopardy! personnel treated the teachers like stars while they were in California, Kissell said, giving them time to sightsee, housing them in deluxe accommodations, and picking up all the tabs. Kissell told the Fredericksburg *Free Lance-Star* that a *Jeopardy!* staffer explained the top-notch treatment this way: "When we ask contestants on this show who was inspirational or made a difference in their lives, so many of them mention a teacher. It's why we decided to have this tournament, to honor teachers."

Kissell had her own teacher to thank. Betty Merrill, who taught Latin at Stafford High School, was the most influential teacher in her life. Merrill later taught Latin at Fredericksburg's James Monroe High School. After she retired from teaching she was a research assistant to University of Mary Washington Historian William B. Crawley Jr. Merrill and her husband, Distinguished Professor of German Emeritus Sammy Merrill, live near UMW in Fredericksburg.

Back at home and back to teaching, Kissell cherishes the memories of the camaraderie she developed with the other 14 teachers and her memory of host Alex Trebek. "He was smart, funny, and very handsome in person," she said.

Kissell, whose mother was a teacher, has tried other professions, but teaching is her passion. "I realized that's what I like best," she said during an interview with *Jeopardy!* "is sharing what I know with the kids so they know more."

– Neva S. Trenis

Alumni **Standouts**

Four outstanding alumni were recognized with awards during the Reunion Weekend Celebration Dinner on June 4.

Jonathan J. Cordone '97

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
Jonathan J. Cordone '97

As senior vice president and general counsel of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, **Jonathan J. Cordone** helps American goods and services reach international markets. In fiscal years 2009 and 2010, more than 20 percent of the Ex-Im Bank's record-breaking authorizations bolstered American small business.

As the bank's chief legal officer, Cordone supervises a division of 32; oversees diverse transactions and litigation; and coordinates with the Department of Justice, White House Counsel, and OMB's Office of General Counsel. As the bank's agency ethics official, he manages financial conflicts and coordinates with the federal Office of Government Ethics.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in political science from UMW, Cordone, who comes from Trumbull, Conn., earned a juris doctor from the University of Connecticut School of Law.

He practiced law in New York and Connecticut before serving as general counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce and serving as minority deputy general counsel and minority counsel for Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection.

Jin Wong '97

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
Jin Wong '97

Interpreting the rules of Major League Baseball is just one of **Jin Wong**'s duties as director of baseball administration for the Kansas City Royals. Wong also assists with player contract negotiations, arbitration preparation, and statistical analysis, and he oversees the club's video coordination for players.

At UMW, Wong was a Division III All-American in baseball and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration.

He served as a baseball operations trainee in Atlanta and as a group sales manager in Richmond, former Triple-A affiliate of the Atlanta Braves, before being hired by the Royals in 2000. Wong quickly climbed the corporate ladder of Kansas City baseball, advancing in just four years from the Royals' scouting operations coordinator to director of baseball operations, before accepting his current position. He and his wife, Libby, live in Overland Park, Kan.

Lloyd Tilton Backstrom '61

Frances Liebenow Armstrong '36 Service Award
Lloyd Tilton Backstrom '61

In recognition of her outstanding and continuous contributions to UMW and the Alumni Association, **Lloyd Tilton Backstrom** received this year's Frances Liebenow Armstrong '36 Service Award.

A charter member of the UMW Galleries, Backstrom also is a member of the UMW Foundation Board of Directors, the Heritage Society, the President's Council, and the UMW Galleries Advisory Council. She has volunteered her services for class reunions, served as a class agent for the University's alumni magazine, and participated in several Richmond-area alumni events. She co-chaired this year's planning and giving committees for the 50th reunion celebration of the Class of 1961.

Backstrom, who lives in Richmond, served on the steering committee for the UMW Centennial Campaign.

Mary Bradley MacPherson '71

Distinguished Alumna Award
Mary Bradley MacPherson '71

Washingtonian magazine named her one of the 100 most powerful women in Washington, D.C., in 2001. Women in Technology and the March of Dimes called her a heroine of technology in 2003.

As director of the Middle East and North Africa Businesswomen's Network for the nonprofit Vital Voices Global Partners, **Mary Bradley MacPherson** empowers women worldwide as emerging leaders and social entrepreneurs.

MacPherson, who lives in Reston, Va., is recognized as an industry executive and an expert in entrepreneurship. She is highly experienced in technology marketing, business development, and the nonprofit community.

She has worked for Blackboard Inc. as senior vice president of marketing and for the Morino Institute, providing program leadership and operating the Netpreneur Program, an online and offline business community. MacPherson also has worked with MCI and with Apple Computer's Federal Systems Group, and she established the independent consultancy M2Works LLC in 2004.

Reunion 2011 Offered Everything Under the Sun

Near-perfect UMW weekend was filled with fun and friends

The stars must have been aligned June 3-5, because comfortable temperatures, low humidity, and sparkling blue skies combined to provide ideal conditions for Reunion Weekend. For the first time in many years, neither heat nor rain interfered as alumni celebrated class reunions, made and renewed friendships, and reveled in the excitement of being back at Mary Washington.

The popular Alumni College lectures, featuring current and retired UMW faculty members, began on Friday and drew alumni and friends back into the classroom to learn more about topics such as digital history and the science of happiness. UMW's three Virginia poet laureates gave readings. And, for the first time, some of the lectures were videotaped. Find links to the video on the alumni relations website.

President and Mrs. Hurley hosted a lovely lawn reception at Brompton on Friday evening. Guests strolled the grounds of the President's home, toured its first floor, and enjoyed music by a jazz combo led by Doug Gately, lecturer in music. After the reception, each reunion class gathered at a separate venue to kick off the weekend. The Hurleys and Vice President for Advancement and University Relations Torre Meringolo made the rounds of the class parties, stopping briefly at each one.

Saturday's full schedule included a University update by President Hurley, student-led campus tours, faculty lectures and book signings, activities for children, bookstore shopping, opportunities to tour the new Eagle Landing residences, class photos, and the annual picnic under a huge tent in front of newly renovated Monroe Hall. Festivities were capped off Saturday evening at a reception at which a check representing the cumulative donations of all reunion classes was presented and at a celebration of outstanding alumni at dinner. Afterward, alumni joined student volunteers and President and Mrs. Hurley to dance the night away at the All-Class Party under the tent.

Sunday's farewell brunch at the Jepson Alumni Executive Center offered one last chance for classmates to gather before heading home.

– Cynthia Snyder '75

Above: The Class of '61 celebrates winning the reunion giving "Race for the Eagle." Right, top: Rosemary Jesionowski, assistant professor of art, demonstrates monotype printmaking at Alumni College.

All photos in this article by Norm Shafer.

CLOCKWISE TOP: President Hurley updates alumni.
Karen Jenkins '72 gets the joke. Rose Hurley, Monique dela Cruz '13, and Beth Poteet Pollard '56 chat over lunch. Professor Emeritus Bulent Atalay speaks on Leonardo da Vinci.
CLOCKWISE BOTTOM: Taking photos. Alumni cross the pedestrian bridge to Eagle Landing. Cedric Rucker '81, center, and '96 alumni at the fountain. Sylvia McJilton Woodcock '61 accepts a Hurley hug on behalf of the Reunion Gift Committee as Marcia Minton Keech '61 applauds.

Photo by Bill Petros

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF
THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

TO: All Alumni
FROM: Derek M. Bottcher '96

I write this in midsummer, as the University enjoys a slightly quieter time between academic sessions. The end of the spring semester was joyous and bittersweet for the Class of 2011. It was a privilege for me to participate in both the graduate and the undergraduate commencement ceremonies and to welcome new members to our alumni ranks.

Reunion Weekend followed on the heels of commencement, and, as you'll note in the photos here and on previous pages, reunion was a glorious time from start to finish – the weather was perfect, and alumni returned to campus in strong numbers, eager to enjoy faculty lectures, meet current students, tour the campus, and revisit familiar spaces. I thoroughly enjoyed my 15th reunion with the Class of 1996 – our Friday night party at the Otter House in downtown Fredericksburg was just like old times! Alumni were excited that President and Mrs. Hurley spent time with each reunion class on Friday night and were present throughout the day Saturday.

Changes abound on campus. On a strategic level, Mary Washington added the colleges of Business and Education to the College of Arts and Sciences. Eagle Village, the mixed-use property featuring student housing and commercial space, has opened directly across U.S. 1 from the Fredericksburg campus. A gleaming white enclosed pedestrian bridge, with the name and seal of the University prominently displayed, makes it just as easy for students to cross the busy highway as it is for them to walk between Virginia and Ball halls.

Adding to the reasons to be excited about the future, Mary Washington has taken a significant step toward engaging alumni who live beyond the mid-Atlantic region. Beginning this year, **Cindy Snyder '75**, an integral part of Alumni Relations, will become the University's first director of national alumni engagement. The purpose of this position is to help Mary Washington become even closer with alumni who live all around the United States, including New England, New York, Florida, and California. I can't imagine a better person than Cindy to make sure that an ever-increasing number of our alumni are engaged with the University! Her new role has allowed UMW to welcome another fellow graduate to a position that will undoubtedly touch many of our lives. I'm happy to welcome **Mark Thaden '02** as our new director of alumni relations. Mark brings strong experience and boundless enthusiasm, and I look forward to working with him.

This year promises to be full of progress and excitement as we celebrate President Hurley's inauguration on Sept. 30, begin to enjoy the new Anderson Center, and support President Hurley's vision to make Mary Washington the best public liberal arts and sciences university in the nation. This is a great time for alumni to step up and support Mary Washington – by helping recruit strong students, providing career guidance and experiences for current students, and contributing financial support. Our collective pride in our alma mater has never been stronger, and I look forward to demonstrating that spirit together with all of you.

Photo by Bill Petros

Photo by Norm Shafer

Above, top: Rick and Rose Hurley, BOV members, and alumni socialize in Washington, D.C., at the Bank of America building in April.

Above, middle: Rachelle Ellis and **Rick Joyce '06** raise a glass in front of the capital skyline.

Above, bottom: Reunion Weekend's opening reception on the Brompton lawn offers a beautiful place to relax and catch up with old friends.

Right: The combined giving of all 13 reunion classes added up to one big check worth $6.6 million! Here the Reunion Giving Committee hands the bounty to President Hurley.

Photo by Norm Shafer

Class Notes

936

uby Lee Norris
norris@oasisonline.com

941

ois Loehr Brown
oislbrown@aol.com

irst of all, an apology to **enore Magill Grimwood** or changing the name of ne program she attended ı Pennsylvania from Road cholar to Rhodes Scholar. I m grateful that **Dorothy Held awley** emailed the correction nd explained that the lderhostel program changed s name to Road Scholar.

For my 92nd birthday ı November, I collected pproximately 92 pounds of onperishable food for the eedy in my area of Fairfax ounty, Va. A pack rat, I ound that I had saved a 2009 ewspaper article about the late **lizabeth "Peg" Snow Wolf**, er many accomplishments, nd her charitable gift plan, cluding establishing a holarship in honor of **rabelle Laws Arrington.**

It was good to hear from **ildred Donaldson Rolander**, ho lives with her husband in a omfortable retirement complex Chapel Hill, N.C., after living r 30 years in Sewickley, Pa. hey have a daughter nearby, son in Raleigh, and another n in Boulder, Colo., plus six andchildren nd two great-andchildren. remember ildred nd her cute phomore cture in the 939 yearbook.

For her 92nd birthday, Lois Loehr Brown '41 collected approximately 92 pounds of nonperishable food for the needy in Fairfax County, Va.

Dorothy Shaw might send small home-raised milk at to **Myra McCormick ole** as a thank-you gift for me handwork. **Myra** might a descendent of Cyrus cCormick, so I sent her a brief nd colorful history of the man nown as the inventor of echanical reaper.

1942

Virginia Bennett Skillman
classnotes@umw.edu

1943

Lee Hall Archer
huntenlee@charter.net

1944

Phyllis Quimby Anderson
pqhndson@myfairpoint.net

I'm happy that so many of you took the time to send information. Even though we are old, we still seem to keep busy! Our first great-granddaughter is waiting to come into this crazy world, and I can't wait. Two of our granddaughters were to be married, one on the day before Easter and the other in September. Our grandson, who lives in Germany, is engaged to a cute German girl he plans to marry next July. My husband, Hank, passed away in January. He had prostate cancer that had spread to his bones and lungs, even though he didn't smoke. Fortunately, we had a reunion in July with all the children. Hank was feeling well and we had a great time. He played the piano until the end and even played a game the night before he died. All the children were here again and were a big help in many ways. I'm doing OK. My only medical problem is an aching back, but my children keep saying that I shouldn't stay in this big house alone and want me to think about making a change. On my own, I gave up driving at night but not in the daytime. Keep going.

It was a nice surprise to receive a note from **Elizabeth Williamson Meachum**, who moved from her condo in Bluefield, Va., to Glenwood Park Retirement Village in Princeton, W.Va., just 10 miles away. Before the move, when her health and the weather didn't cooperate, she depended on her family, and she has no regrets. Elizabeth moved to Bluefield from Myrtle Beach, S.C., after her husband passed away in 1985. She has a daughter and son-in-law in Charlottesville, and a son and daughter-in-law, who have her only grandchildren, in Bluefield. Her granddaughter works for Wake Forest University, and her grandson, a graduate of Furman University and West Virginia University College of Law, is pursuing a doctorate in political science at Florida State. Elizabeth looks forward to receiving the *University of Mary Washington Magazine* and to the development of the University.

Merle Updike Davis '44 and husband Robert of Berkeley, Calif., attended a UMW alumni function in the Bay area, where President Richard V. Hurley and wife Rose were honored.

Merle Updike Davis and husband Robert of Berkeley, Calif., attended a UMW alumni function in the Bay area, where President Richard V. Hurley and his wife, Rose, were honored. The Davises stood in for beloved classmate **Ruth Gubler Kluge** at a Napa Valley celebration her family hosted. They enjoyed tea, mints, and a conversation with UMW's assistant vice president for gift planning, Jan Clarke, who visited them at their home. The Davises are excited about their Ashby Village, modeled after Beacon Hill Village in Boston and part of the national Village movement, with more than 50 such villages across the country helping senior adults live independently.

Jean Adie Mogavero lives with her daughter in Hillsboro, Texas. Her house is closed for the winter, and she plans to put it up for sale after she gets rid of stuff. Since her daughter works, Jean is at home with four cats. **Cena Loback Carswell** is doing well, but her husband of 68 years died suddenly just before Christmas, so she was learning to be a widow, which is challenging, especially since he did all the big bookkeeping and she took care of the household.

Marie Kennedy Robins lives in a continuing care community in North Carolina and planned to spend Easter with her daughter and family in Litchfield by the Sea in South Carolina.

Anna Roberts Ware shared news about **Nettie Evans Lawrey** and husband Tom. Nettie is 90, physically strong, and living in Rockville Nursing Home. Her daughter, Betty, a teacher in Richmond, said that Nettie lost her short-term memory after a stroke; however, Betty was surprised by what she remembered about nursery school and college. Nettie still plays bingo, sings, enjoys special programs, and loves to hear from friends. She really doesn't need a nursing home, but Tom does, and this way they're not alone. Anna also said that **Nancy Gravatt Tucker** does not walk well but uses the treadmill for 20 minutes at a time. Anna sent a picture of her beautiful house, which has been in her family since 1724. She calls it her own private nursing home. Her CPA daughter stops by every morning on her way to work and has dinner for them once or twice a week. Anna keeps in touch with several classmates, and it helps her a lot.

Elizabeth Cumby Murray doesn't travel except to see doctors, but I believe that's in all our schedules. Grandson Andrew and his wife were expecting a boy and planned to name him James and call him Jamie. He will join their 2-year-old daughter, Charlotte. Andrew's brother, Mattieu, is engaged to a lovely girl from Long Island, N.Y., where they planned to be married in June, and Elizabeth hoped to attend. On a sad note, Elizabeth's older daughter, Trish, lost her husband, Gilles, to lung cancer last May.

Jane Trevvett Winston Ford appreciates being able to be in touch with college friends. She started in the Class of 1945 but, as many did, took two summer sessions and graduated with the Class of 1944. Her closest friends were **Dorothy Woodson Baber** and **Mary Reams Turner**. Dorothy passed away, but Jane is still in touch with Mary, who drove up from North Carolina with husband Wally, who is now deceased, for Jane's 50th wedding anniversary.

We remember that during her senior year Jane married Bev Wilson, who was shipped overseas in WWII and killed in France shortly after her graduation. That was a life-changing event. She answered an appeal from the Surgeon General for occupational therapists to help with those wounded in the war. Since moving back to Richmond in 2005, Jane has helped VCU's School of Allied Health Professions, which is preparing for its 70th anniversary, locate records of her wartime emergency occupational therapist class. Since Jane is probably the oldest alumna, she was to represent the 1940s. I would like to add that Jane was the first person to receive the Making a Difference award to be given annually to a person who has "contributed in educating current students about the history of occupational therapy education" at VCU. She met her second husband while on the staff of Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Though he left the Army soon after they married, he was called back to duty during the Korean War and transferred to the Air Force. They moved all over the country and finally settled in Florida, where Jane lived most of her life. In 1955, they adopted a newborn and raised him as their own. When he was a 40-year-old attorney in the D.C. area, he was "found" by three older sisters who also had been given up for adoption. The fascinating story can be read at www.blindinoneeye.com.

Jane had a home studio, where she painted portraits for 65 years, and she now lives in Lakewood Manor retirement community in suburban Richmond, where she designs signs, banners, and stage sets for their theatrical group, The Manor Players. Most of the actors and actresses are between 80 and 100 years old! Jane added that she lives near her sister, **Christine Trevvett '47**, at Lakewood and that their sister-in-law, **Barbara Hisey Trevvett '46**, lives nearby and is on the waiting list to join them.

Ruth McDaniel Potts' family made its annual visit to the beach last summer in Duck on North Carolina's Outer Banks. She has had knee and eye problems but still crochets at the church for the Linus Blanket Project, reads a lot, and does other small things. Her grandson bought a house next door, which was exciting for all of them. His 6-year-old son said, "Well, Granny, guess you will have to be buying more grapes when we move."

Jane Trevvett Winston Ford '44 designs signs, banners, and stage sets for her retirement community's theatrical group, The Manor Players.

Virginia Hawley Butler sold her home and lives with daughter Bonnie and her husband in Blacksburg, Va. They have a daughter and a son who live close by, so they are entertained by the grandchildren. Virginia's other daughter, Sue Ellen, and her husband live in Roanoke, Va., and have a married daughter, a married son, and a precious granddaughter. Virginia is in fair health except for having macular degeneration, but she still plays bridge, goes to Virginia Tech ball games, and attends church.

Helen Hawley Turner lives with her daughter near Wilmington, Del., and has two married sons and six grandchildren. Husband Randolph passed away in 2008. Helen also is in fair health except for having macular degeneration. She and Virginia talk on the phone weekly and enjoy reminiscing about their Mary Washington days.

Mary Ellen Gardiner Starkey has so many children and grandchildren – her own and steps – that it gets confusing. I told her that I'd just say they all are doing well in school and work and are great kids. She visited with her daughter in Coral Gables, Fla.

1945

Frances Watts Barker
jbarker@intercom.net

1946

Patricia Mathewson Spring
classnotes@umw.edu

1947

Betty Moore Drewry Bamman
bdbamman@verizon.net

1949

classnotes@umw.edu

This year was to be exciting for **Edith Nan Matzenger Balfe**. Granddaughter Jenny Bush was to graduate from Portland University in Oregon, where she was on the dean's list. On the opposite coast, granddaughter Laura Heidhausen, who graduated last year from the University of Maryland, was to be married in Annapolis in July. With Edith living in between, near Houston, the trips posed a challenge, but all three daughters planned to help make it an adventure.

1949

Anna Dulany Lyons

June Davis McCormick
jaymccee@yahoo.com

Since addresses for Class Agents no longer are printed in the magazine, we suggest you save a recent issue for possible future reference, as not everyone is computer-oriented. Or, you can send news to the alumni office, and it will be forwarded.

As we eagerly awaited the arrival of spring, news for the summer issue was gleaned from our combined Christmas cards, notes, phone calls, and emails. Holiday greetings came from **Elva Tate Hasher** of Mechanicsville, Va., who noted she was grateful for "making it to another year." A tad older than most of us, Elva said she guessed she was doing alright for a mid-octogenarian. She is being treated for macular degeneration in one eye, a frequent occurrence for those in our age bracket.

Dorothy "Dottie" Desmond Helfrich anticipated the arrival of her step-daughter, who was to spend the holidays with her in Richmond. Dottie has many medical maladies but manages to keep driving, mainly to her doctor's office, the drug store for meds, and the grocery store. She said her adored little toy poodle, Yvette, keeps her going and happy. From her home and kennel in Georgetown, Del., **Frances "Blackie" Horn Nygood** sent another original Christmas card featuring a delightful poem and a picture of her basset hound puppies. As is her annual practice, Blackie planned to be ringside at the Westminster Dog Show in February.

Jean "Murph" Murphy Baptist of Martinsville, Va., still was hobbling along slowly but grateful she's been able to stay in her own home. Murph said her social life is "almost nil" and that she hasn't played bridge in more than a year. She had cataract surgery on one eye and was scheduled to have the other done in January. She has 10 grandchildren and three great-grands. Murph stays in touch with her Mary Washington roommate and BFF, **Virginia "Jinny" Merrill McLeod**, who lives with husband Oliver in Danvers, Mass. Murph and Jinny share November birthdays and seem to share the same ailments, as they compare symptoms. Murph often sees **Nancy Morris Childress** around town and said that Nancy recently lost her second husband, Thomas. Our belated sympathy is extended to Nancy.

With four of them at hand in Lexington, her grandchildren are the center of **Betty Bond Heller Nichols**' life. The Roanoke College Children's Choir, with which Sarah made her début last year at Carnegie Hall, was to travel to London in August and perform at various venues, including Canterbury Cathedral. Noting that Sarah will turn 16 while in London, B.B. queried, "What were we doing at age 15?" B.B.'s daughter, Anne, is proficient on flute and French horn; Anne's husband plays trombone; Sarah plays flute; Ben, 14, plays a mean trumpet; Chris, 12, plays sax; and Peyton, 10, plays oboe. B.B. plays piano occasionally to keep her arthritic fingers "fairly nimble" and said if she could have a real piano instead of one

he electronic keyboards that so prevalent today, she might sider joining her talented ily in its own version of *Sound of Music*. B.B. said t **Jane Yeatman Spangler**'s ghter confirmed that Jane eling good and doing well, ich is welcome news.

Elizabeth "Betty" Fischer re of Fairfax, Va., sent a cial card that featured a to of her creative gingerbread se, with trees, a snowman, l a gingerbread family. ty keeps busy attending her ndchildren's swim meets, dive petitions, dance recitals, and ss-country es. She took inting trip Umbria, Italy, September. sdom vailed when ty let the ng students in group climb the hill towns earch of scenic sights, while found interesting subjects to nt not far from the bus!

Anne "Miami" McCaskill is and Claude have become vely involved in their rement community, new rch, and political pursuits. ne co-chairs the grounds l garden committee at n Meadows, and Claude is onsible for the vegetable den. Both enjoy taking quent college courses about h subjects as the Constitution, sidents, and Broadway sicals. Anne continued her vities with the League of men Voters. Claude served year as chief judge in their a's election polls, serves on ir church finance committee, l provides daily assistance to sister, who also lives at Glen adows. Last fall, the MacAskill t Society held a Kirking he Tartan service at their lity. The Libises enjoyed the ing and dancing to the music Scottish fiddler. They hold son tickets to the Baltimore nphony and Centerstage, and y enjoy riding their bikes.

Barbara Westerman wlon and Howard also e acclimated to retirement ilities. They are at the lonnade in Charlottesville l enjoy the activities there. ward has used a walker since ing a hip replacement two rs ago, but **Mary Elwang Sharpley** said the Newlons never miss a U.Va. basketball game. Mary also attends the Cavaliers' home games, even though the past year was not their best and the team didn't make it to the post-season tournament in March.

In her Christmas message, **Lucy Vance Gilmer** confirmed our previous prediction: She is helping with the Sullins College alumnae reunion for September. She claims that members of the classes of the '60s and '70s, who are younger, are doing "most of the work," but we are well aware of Lucy's capabilities and work ethics. Lucy finds it unbelievable that so many Sullins classmates are deceased. We have the same emotion about the loss of so many of our Mary Washington classmates and were saddened to see **Martha Randall Carson** listed under *In Memoriam* in the last issue of the alumni magazine. Martha Gene successfully pursued her theatrical career in New York for many years and looked as youthful as ever when she attended our 50th reunion in 1999.

Kathryn Sue Wright Drake '49 and husband Jim do volunteer work in their church and at the local Ronald McDonald House and Family Room.

Katherine "Kate" Mayo Schmidt spent Christmas week with son Bill Jr. and his wife, Terri, in Albuquerque, N.M. Kate found it cold there and said the older she gets the more she appreciates the milder climate in Palestine, Texas. Kate feels she has completely physically recovered, and her doctor said she can do whatever she wants. However, she no longer volunteers in the soup kitchen, as she thinks they need "spryer workers." She started playing bridge again and walks frequently. Bill and Terri planned to spend a week with Kate in May, and she and her sister might take a trip together or visit with their brother and his family in Virginia.

In the last issue, **Anna "Andi" Dulany Lyons** recapped the educational accomplishments of two of her granddaughters, **Andrea Devening '04** and cousin **Chelsea Devening '10**. Andi is equally proud of her other grandchildren. Clay and Martha's older daughter, Chloe, is a dietician in Richmond. Their younger daughter, Chelsea, was using her Arabic skills in Charlottesville and planning to head to graduate school in New York this fall. Hal and Wendy's daughter Lany was to receive her graduate degree in art therapy from the University of Louisville in May, and their other daughter, Andrea, was still working in refugee resettlement in Chicago and hoping to begin graduate studies in urban planning this fall. Rob and Janet's daughter, Olivia, is the next oldest but will have to wait for her degrees, as she just turned 5 and is in kindergarten! Scott and Missy's daughter, Erin, was attending a doctoral program in physical therapy at the Medical College of Virginia. The only boy in the bunch, their son, Drew, is a rising senior majoring in psychology at Virginia Tech. So, the Devening grands all are achievers, making their doting grandmother as proud as a peacock!

Andi and **Marion "Wendy" Selfe Kelly** try to get together for lunch and to catch up at least once a month. Wendy reported that one of the nicest recent events was the arrival at Westminster Canterbury of another Mary Washington alumna, **Sue Quelch Bass '54**, whom Wendy found to be a delight. They both take water exercise class and bonded quickly. Sue and husband Jerry now join Wendy and George for before-dinner cocktails.

Frances Houston Layton spent Christmas with her daughter and her family in Kentucky and encountered three snowstorms on the way back to West Virginia, but she arrived home safely. Fran and Roland had spent each February in a special area of Florida since 2002. When Roland died in 2009, they already had reserved a house for 2010, so Fran went alone last year and again this year. The Laytons preferred St. George Island in the Panhandle, which, Fran said, isn't the warmest spot in Florida but one of the loveliest. A third of the island is a state park, there are no high-rise buildings, and houses must be built behind the dunes, leaving a large, beautiful beach for all to enjoy. As it isn't warm in the winter, the beach is practically deserted except for a few people walking their dogs. That makes Fran want to stay there with her rescued Boston terrier, Peggy, for company – the best way imaginable to spend the month of February. Fran summarized her annual retreat as relaxing, with no crowds, excellent seafood, friendly people, and plenty of time to read good books.

Nan Riley Pointer '50 took two warm-weather cruises, traveling through the Panama Canal on one and down the Mexican coast on the other.

A real surprise came in hearing from **Kathryn Sue Wright Drake**, who wrote that when the alumni magazine arrives she immediately turns to our class notes. We know that's what everyone does but were gratified that she finally was prompted to check in after all these years! She revealed that she transferred to Mary Washington for junior and senior years from Gulf Park College in Gulfport, Miss. She took overnight train trips between Fredericksburg and her home in Hattiesburg, Miss. Known then as Sue Wright and now as KD, she since has lost track of her roommates and suitemates but heard that two of them are deceased. A sociology major, she got a master's degree in medical social work. She worked for three years in social services at Vanderbilt University Hospital, where she met husband James Drake, who was in med school there. After he graduated, they married and moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., for his internship and residency. Then, they moved to Chattanooga, Tenn., where Jim established a busy solo practice in internal medicine. KD worked until they had a son and a daughter, who are two years apart. When their children were of school age, she went back to a private social service agency, working part time and then full time for 20 years. She also cared for her father for one year and her mother for 11 years in their home. After retiring, she and Jim missed those with whom they'd come in contact, and

they now do volunteer work in their church and at the Ronald McDonald House and Family Room at the hospital. They have two grandchildren, ages 17 and 13, who taught KD to text. The grandchildren are courtesy of their daughter and her husband, who live in Atlanta. Their son has a master's degree in literary science and is a library manager in Chattanooga. Thanks to KD for finally adding her voice to our Fabulous Forty-Niners class notes! Our fervent wish is that KD will inspire other long-silent readers to respond, too.

Sadly, as we made contact with one classmate, we learned of the loss of another. We are grateful to **Mary Elwang Sharpley**, who sent an obituary from the *Richmond Times Dispatch* for **Mary Ellen Donahoe Baker**, who died on March 1 at the Medical College of Virginia. Raised in Fredericksburg, Mary Ellen was a town girl while at Mary Washington. After graduation, she taught school for more than 30 years in the counties of Spotsylvania, Henrico, and Stafford, retiring from the Stafford school system in 1990. She was a lifetime member of Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, where she was a Sunday school teacher for many years. Her first husband, John Lewis, died. She is survived by her husband, William Baker, her son and daughter, two grandchildren, and her and her husband's extended families. On behalf of the Class of 1949, our heartfelt sympathy is offered to them.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the preceding news, without which we'd have a blank column! As ever, love to all of you from both of us.

1950

Dorothy Held Gawley
dnigawly@juno.com

At this writing in March, spring seems to be in the air and, for now, the snow is gone. The Northeast really had a hard winter, from right after Christmas until the end of February. Hope you all survived. **Garland "Dorsey" Estes McCarthy**, on the other hand, was walking the beach in Galveston, Texas, with her daughter and granddaughter on Christmas day.

Nan Riley Pointer took two warm-weather cruises. She and Joe flew to San Diego, traveled with three others through the Panama Canal, and returned to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. On another cruise, Nan traveled from San Diego down the Mexican coast with son Owen and his family, then spent time in San Diego, visiting the zoo and SeaWorld. Owen's son, Christopher, has his driver's license and has helped Joe with the harvesting. He thinks he would like to do something in agriculture and has his eye on Virginia Tech. **Helen Hopkins Timberlake** also took a summer cruise, traveling with neighbors to the Baltic and St. Petersburg, Russia. It was hot in the palaces, but she enjoyed the trip, the almost new ship, the food, and her travel companions.

One of the highlights of 2010 for **Patti Head Ferguson** was the wedding of her only granddaughter in the Bermuda Botanical Gardens. In December, Patti returned to New York City for the third time for more tests and a spinal operation that she hopes will relieve her pain and allow her to walk without a cane. **Barbara Birkenmeyer Mader** and Bill also attended a granddaughter's outdoor wedding, held in her parents' backyard overlooking Green Bay in Wisconsin. Barb retired from real estate and now plays bridge, reads, and tackles the domestic tasks she had neglected. **Marge Diener Knapp** was happy to report that she had three glorious months of no COPD problems before Christmas but then suffered another short bout along with a flare-up of arthritis in her fingertips. Medication helped, and she enjoyed baking with her granddaughters.

Gerry Boswell Griffin enjoys the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and basketball games at Davidson College. This year, she saw the huge LED Christmas light display around the track at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Not being a NASCAR fan, she figured that would be the only way she would ever get there. She is thankful that daughter Judy is cancer-free so far. Son David is active in a mountain bike club in Atlanta and usually brings his bike when he visits Gerry. **Billie Mitchell Hanes** is thankful that her daughter Diana has returned to an active life after being so sick and undergoing horrendous treatments. Billie and Dick enjoy theater and concerts in the Virginia Beach area. Both had medical problems in the summer. Dick had a procedure to correct atrial fibrillation. Billie had a total knee replacement and was having back pain that she hoped would improve so she could discard her cane. All was well with **Marcy Weatherly Morris** and **Juney**, who were waiting for spring to arrive. Marcy had just had two successful cataract surgeries. They were excited that their grandson, a drama major who graduated from Mary Washington in December, landed a job in New York City and got his own little apartment in Brooklyn.

I noticed from her Christmas card that **Jean Sprower Hampton** has moved from her home in Old Lyme, Conn., to what seems to be a senior residence in Haddam.

Clelia Boushee Bullard sent the sad news that her husband, Ray, passed away right after Christmas. He had heart problems with minor flare-ups since the '70s. During the past year or so, he had serious problems with his immune system. Treatments didn't seem to help, and he'd grown weaker. The day after Christmas, he fell and broke his hip, which complicated matters and led to his death. Clelia is thankful that all her family is nearby in Jacksonville, Fla., and that her daughters and grandchildren had final visits with him.

Adele "Punky" Crise Thomas '53 spends a lot of time painting, is a member of the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters, and still takes lessons.

1951

Roselyn Bell Morris
classnotes@umw.edu

Let us hear from you!

Deadlines for Class Notes submissions:

Material received by	Appears in
NOVEMBER 15	SPRING
MARCH 15	SUMMER
JULY 15	FALL/WINTER

1952

Corley Gibson Friesen
corleyfriesen@comcast.net

1953

Becky Harvill
becbub@earthlink.net

Oh, the headaches of a Class Agent who is not always literate, even on her good days, much less computer literate on days when news is due! First, more than half of the email addresses I have are no longer valid. Second, when I tried to send my request for news, I thought my computer was telling me the message hadn't been sent. My husband agreed that was what it was saying and tried to send the message twice more.

Adele "Punky" Crise Thomas replied quickly, assuring me that she had received all three messages! She did not particularly enjoy the freezing winter but stayed busy keeping up with Buz and her family of five daughters, three sons-in-law (who earn lots of points by doing the cooking for their families), and a granddaughter. Punky spends a lot of time painting, is a member of the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters, and still takes lessons. The family visits Hilton Head, S.C., several times a year and planned to visit in early March. Punky sees **Nan Mosher Weir** as often as possible.

Ginny Poole Kinniburgh's Christmas card brought good news of her busy family and the volunteer service she and John enjoy at Falcons Landing. Ginny continues to share her musical talent with her church choir and the community. John helps fill the pages of the newsletter, and his camera is in constant use. He has recovered from the

ɔken vertebrae he suffered
t summer. Fortunately,
fore his accident, he was able
travel to New Jersey for a
ınion with his troops from
958 assignment at Camp
eune, N.C. The Kinniburghs
re planning a holiday trip to
lando, Fla., to get acquainted
:h their new grandson.

Deigh Renn Simpson
oyed a breakfast visit with
rbara Faxon Stout and Hal
en they passed
ough Richmond.
igh's daughter
l lives in Denver
came home in
tober for Deigh's
thday and also
ne for their
ditional "Women
ly New Year" at Chincoteague,
, during which it snowed.

Nancy Melton Miller moved
o Nancy and Andy's house
Suffolk, Va. Nancy said, "I
ss living in Norfolk, but I
o miss being thin!" **Virginia**
inny" Bailes took a couple of
ɔs to South Carolina to visit
sister and her family, where
re is farm living and lots nicer
ather than in the Shenandoah
lley last winter! Ginny keeps in
ch with **Betty Buck** and **Kitty**
enshain, neither of whom sent
news. I might have to depend
Ginny for information.

Betty Mason Roper had a
at suggestion: For the next
ıe of Class Notes, each of us
ɔuld share how we plan to
ebrate our 80th birthdays.
assumes (rightly so, I think)
t all of us are nearing that
lestone, whether or not we
nt to be reminded of it. I have
"attitude of gratitude" as I
ɔroach mine. **Peggy Hopkins**
ınson had an 18-day stay in
Keys with her sister, Ellen,
d a friend. Peg was trying
catch her breath before she
d Ellen left on a long drive to
ırtanburg, S.C., for a nephew's
dding. She loves her new home
a great condo complex with
nderful neighbors.

Gayle Winston Roberts
d Page still live on Buggs
ınd Lake in Clarksville, Va.,
d enjoy the retirement home
y moved into five years ago.
rtunately, all of the family
es in Virginia except for one
ındson in California. Gayle and
ge planned to take a river cruise
the Danube in April. Gayle's
closing comment was, "I think about the good old uncomplicated days at MWC, when life was simple and fun." Amen!

Alberta "Bert" Shelton Stornetta and husband Wake anticipated several reunions this spring and summer. In April, Wake was to celebrate his 60th Naval Academy reunion. In early July, for his 65th high school reunion in Santa Maria, they planned to fly to California, where they were to visit Navy friends in Monterey, see family in Turlock and Paso Robles, and attend Wake's family reunion in Plymouth. Bert's literary efforts have continued, with three condensations from her forthcoming book on the history of Arnold, Md., running in the quarterly publication *Anne Arundel County History Notes*. Their daughter, Mary Beth Gale, has been instrumental in assembling a collection of 17 of the family's quilts, all made in Virginia between 1858 and 2000, with provenance to go with them. They have been accepted in the permanent collection of the Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg, Va. Bert and her family hoped to attend a showing this fall.

Georgiana Spillman Stillman '54 and David joined a local group for a bus trip through New Hampshire to see the fall colors.

Bub and I continue to be grateful for our good health and our great (but kind of crazy) family. He plays tennis and enjoys being the "baby" of the Tuesday poker club. I'm not the baby of my 50-some-year-old bridge group, and I'm not allowed to pretend that I am! After years of bike tours and vowing that we'd never go on a bus tour (and wear nametags and eat every meal at Shoney's), we found a wonderful travel group, parked the bikes in the basement, and "Go With Gaynelle!" Gaynelle Riddick of Royal Tours left teaching fifth grade and started a bus tour group out of Franklin, Va. It's the perfect way to see the world. It's sort of like traveling with your favorite teacher, who wants to be sure you enjoy it and knows exactly how to handle everything. We were captivated by our sojourn last summer to Newfoundland. We planned to go to Quebec in July and drive up the northern bank of the St. Lawrence River, on to the Gaspé Peninsula, then down through New Brunswick and back home. We also planned to travel with Gaynelle for a few days in September to see all we've missed at Mount Vernon.

I really do need help with this entry. So many of you have changed email addresses, and I didn't have one in the first place for others. If you're reading this issue of the *University of Mary Washington Magazine*, you are obviously interested, and you can be sure that we are interested in you! When you finish reading this, please go straight to your computer and send your email address to mine, which is listed above. Include some news about yourself while you're at it!

1954

Ruth Gillespie Simpson
regs2000@aol.com

Georgiana Spillman Stillman had resolved to stay home after their last long trip, but wanderlust hit again, and she and David joined a local group for a bus trip through New Hampshire to see the fall colors. **Helen Hodges Conte**'s Christmas note said, "Time really flies when you're busy getting older and having fun!" She spent a week in Florida in August with a cousin she hadn't seen in 20 years. She also visited James Monroe's Ash Lawn-Highland and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello with the Virginia Historical Society last summer, and the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia with a different group in October.

Ann Dunaway Criswell '55 enjoys retirement, takes occasional classes at Stanford, and does home tutoring.

In September, **Linda LeHardy Sweet** and **Joanie Kaitner Lyon** visited **Margy Hogg Sullivan**, who was house-sitting in Coronado, Calif., where they all grew up. "Several more friends from high school were in Coronado, and we acted just like 16-year olds (with wrinkles)." **"Bootsie" Simpson Johnson** called this week, sounding a bit rough. She's been battling respiratory problems all winter and getting cabin fever. There's no sign that cancer is involved, but she's tired, sleeps a lot, and would prefer to get back to work. During the holidays, she talked with **Helen Wilbur Vogel**, who had been to Chautauqua a couple of times, and **Ruth Russell Cobb**, who has done some traveling with her granddaughter. Ruth has used Tauck Tours through the years and rates them highly; last summer's 13-day trip included Switzerland. She has taught rug braiding and chair caning through senior programs for years but now only teaches a few friends in her home. She also does quilting and had on the stretcher an 1850 pieced top belonging to a friend whose husband is writing a book about it, the craft, and the quilters. Groups such as the Red Hat Society and the Homemakers Club are coming in to "add a few stitches." Ruth also told me that old printed feed bags sell for $18 each, so I must search the attic.

Sadly, **Nancy Poarch Daugherty**'s son, Alan, called to say that his mother died in November from lung cancer diagnosed in July. She taught eighth-grade history in Norfolk, Va., for about eight years before retiring to raise three children: John, Alan, and Elizabeth. Nancy also is survived by one granddaughter, 6-year-old Lily, who was diagnosed with brain cancer at 13 months but is now getting along beautifully. Alan said Nancy was a wonderful mother. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

While checking details of Nancy's obituary, I talked with two of her suitemates, **Betty Chandler** and **Laura Towson Cleminshaw**. Betty retired six years ago after teaching 45 years at Thoroughgood Elementary and Independence Middle schools in Virginia Beach. She is enjoying retirement and, as are many of us, trying to figure out what to do with her stuff when she downsizes. Laura, a widow of 13-plus years, has one daughter in California and one in Montana. She was active on the local planning and zoning board for 14 years, and her husband's

post-retirement position kept them traveling to Great Britain. Laura stays active, exercising, traveling, and spending some of the summer with her husband's family in Canada.

My own sad news is that my sister, **Mary Ann Gillespie Corbett '50**, died in December, after a year's fight with bladder cancer. It was a tough year, and she was brave. Her husband, Gordon, my three children, and I are bereft. She was very special.

My good news is that my son, Bart, and family returned in December after 3½ years in Germany and were temporarily staying with me. The activities of four grandchildren, ages 3 to 12, have been a blessed distraction. Their mother, Teri, separated from the USAF after 15 years and makes a daily 2½-hour-round-trip commute to work as an anesthesiologist at the VA hospital in Martinsburg, W.Va. Bart manages the kids. The oldest three are in the schools Bart attended, and 3-year-old Corbett and I hang out while Dad is busy looking for housing, schools, and stables near the hospital.

Please keep in touch, and thank you for doing just that.

1955

Christine Harper Hovis
chrishovis@aol.com

I guess I'm getting older because I'm beginning to forget exactly what I have written in the Class Notes in previous issues. So, please excuse anything that sounds familiar to you. On the other hand, maybe you won't remember what I wrote previously. Score! At work, I keep putting papers down, then having to go on a search, mentally and physically, for them. I do this so often that one of my employees said, "Every day is an Easter egg hunt for you, isn't it?" Add that to a bad back, hip, and knee, and you can see what keeps me swearing and limping, but I'm still upright and truckin' along. I will start with news from Christmas and continue to March.

Sally Hanger Morawitz and Fran survived the blizzards, torrential rains, code-red heat, airport total body scans, and the Redskins' bumbling and fumbling. They traveled to the Okefenokee Swamp, Amelia and Cumberland islands, Belize, and Roatan Island. August was cottage and family time, and September found them touring the Canadian Rockies, with their last stop in Vancouver.

Patricia Seibert Siegel had foot surgery in November and was incapacitated for two months. Mike had to do the household chores and chauffeur the grandkids. When I talked to her, she was doing OK.

Diane Farans Green '55 does hospital volunteer work, takes community college courses, and has had her own real estate business for more than 40 years.

We were sad to hear of the passing in April of **Eileen Manze** in Orlando, Fla. She had written earlier and said that she was confined by a 24-hour-a-day IV, but that she had been able to avoid the hospital during the previous year. She wrote that she was sorry to have missed the reunion, but she was happy to have gotten a note and pictures from **Mary-Margaret Papstein Carter**. Our thoughts go out to her family.

Polly Stoddard Heim sent a wonderful Christmas card with gorgeous pictures. They have had quite a year, with Ken's 80th birthday in Tucson, Ariz., followed by a trip to the White Mountains, travels north to Show Lo, and a return along the New Mexico border. They also traveled to California; Lincoln, Neb., in their fifth wheel; Elk City, Idaho, taking time to kayak on the waters in McCall; Maple Valley, Wash., up through the Cascades, and into British Columbia; then back to Tucson.

Ann Dunaway Criswell and her husband still divide their time between California and Virginia. Enjoying retirement, she takes occasional classes at Stanford, and does home tutoring. Interesting note: Ann related that Elizabeth Edwards spent two years at Mary Washington before transferring and that she also attended Francis C. Hammond High School, where Ann began her teaching career in 1956. Ann also taught for many years at Castilleja, a private school for girls in Palo Alto, Calif. I went to Miss Harker's School, and Castilleja was our biggest rival back then. The older I get, the more connections seem to pop up all over the place!

We send our love and sympathy to **Phyllis "Bee" Melillo Shanahan**, who lost her husband. The beautiful note she sent started, "After 52 years of comedic bliss, my wonderful husband, John, passed away." John died in November in hospice care in Branford, Conn. He had a tumor removed from under his arm in March of 2010, had more than seven weeks of radiation, and thought it was taken care of, but the damage was too great for him to recover. They had a good summer together and went on a Mediterranean cruise to Italy, Spain, Turkey, and Greece. He golfed, went fishing, and generally felt fine; nothing slowed him down. Bee said the family is sure he's telling St. Peter jokes and looking for tee times.

Anne Lou Rohrbach Culwell keeps busy with grandkids' football, volleyball, cheerleading, etc., and said time goes faster and she goes slower. Arthritis gives her fits, and it gets a little harder to ignore each day. She traveled to Cortez, Colo., in August with her Friday night dinner group. They stayed with a friend for a week; took side trips on the train from Durango to Silverton; visited Mesa Verde National Park, Anasazi Heritage Center, Escalante Ruins, and other interesting sites; and, of course, ate and ate! **Charlotte Fisher Klapproth** had a rough time getting home from Baltimore after Christmas. They had 13 inches of snow in Selbyville, Del., and lots of wind from the Bay. A road crew had to lift the back end of their car onto the road after it spun around three times.

Mary Kate Bird Dellitt went back East to see her daughter sworn in as assistant secretary of the Army and to begin a trip on the *Queen Mary 2* to see Norwegian fjords and spend five days in St. Petersburg, Russia. She went to Washington, D.C., to spend the holidays with her daughter, visit **Colleen O'Rear Lewis** and **Sally Hanger Moravitz**, and attend two receptions at the White House. **Mary Kate** still spends winters in Arizona and summers in Oregon, and she hopes anyone visiting the Southwest or Northwest will let her know, as she has plenty of room in both places.

Diane Farans Green lost her husband about three years ago after being married 53 years. She keeps busy doing volunteer work, having offered her services at the hospital for more than 25 years. She takes community college courses, enjoys her family whenever possible, and has had her own real estate business for more than 40 years. **Eileen West Grenfell** and Fred are happy with their family and its expansion. They are blessed with four great grandchildren. Three more, including a set of twins, were expected in September. The twins will make three sets in three generations in their clan. Eileen plays bridge, works on the family tree, crochets, and knits.

In case I forget to email **Polly Stoddard Heim**'s address to **Patricia Seitz Hartel**, you read it here and maybe you two will connect. Pat said she remembers that Polly's dad was an artist for Barnum & Bailey Circus and designed most of the huge display posters. A note from **Betty Mason Roper '53** told of the death in March of **Mary Alice Ratchford Armstrong**. Betty said she didn't hear of her illness until just before and presumes it was sudden.

I had a wonderful phone visit with **Carol Cooper**, discussing life in general, rudeness, lack of manners, dress, and a general disregard for traditions. Mary Washington taught me that friends last forever, a little civil disobedience does work, manners and traditions do count, and that, with the education I received, I could pick and choose what I wanted to do. Well, more or less on the last one. In the '50s, the thinking was that we needed an education in case something happened to our husbands. Remember, the first priority was getting married, the second was going to grad school, and the third was working! As far as I can tell, a majority of us ended up working anyway and in interesting professions. We did it all, thank you very much. Now, we need to do it again. The "it" is opening our pocketbooks for the Class of 1955's

ift. We are short $500 to fund ur chair at the new Anderson Center. If a bunch of you donate 25 to $50, we will meet our goal. lease make checks to the UMW oundation and specify that the noney is to go to the Class of 1955 ift chair.

Now, on to Carol's news: She ook a trip to London, arriving ist in time for ne student riots. he stayed a week nd had to deal vith a strike n the London Jnderground and big snowstorm t Gatwick irport when ne tried to fly home. Despite the inconveniences," she saw a couple f plays, visited Canterbury, and eated herself to a haircut in a ncy London department store. he was to go to lunch in March vith **Mary Patteson Morgan**, vho was preparing for a 4K run in upport of breast cancer research.

Once again, thank you for all ne news you sent. Until next time, ay safe, have fun, and speak your nind. We are now old enough to et away with almost anything.

956

nn Chilton Power
cpower1@earthlink.net

y the time you read this, our 55th nniversary reunion will be over, nd I hope many of you were able o come.

I am late to the grandparent roup; my four grandchildren ange from kindergarten to fifth rade! Gannett is moving my ldest son, Ted, from Reno, Nev., o Des Moines, Iowa. That will nake my visits much easier, and I von't have to change planes. Son om is chief legal counsel for the National Telecommunications nd Information Administration, vorking to get high-speed Internet ccess to rural areas. I'm waiting or availability here at the farm! Youngest son Stephen writes or *The Wall Street Journal* and ppears sometimes on Diane Rehm's NPR program and on C-SPAN's *Washington Journal*. am busy with the same old rojects: local history, writing, nd volunteer work.

The only news I received or this issue was from **Hermie Gross Fox**, who, along with her sister, is a world traveler. In June 2010, they took a Princess Cruise, visiting Rome and traveling to ports in Dublin, Ireland; Glasgow, Scotland; LeHavre, France; and Brussels, Belgium. They took a Viking River Cruise in November that started in the Netherlands and took them through Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary. They planned a spring trip to China, a tour of national parks, and a train trip in Canada. Hermie's married son and daughter live in California, and she enjoys nine grandchildren, who are in first grade through college.

Susannah Godlove '58 is a member of the Friends of Handley Regional Library and serves on the board of the Shenandoah Arts Council in Winchester, Va.

Look for a new correspondent in subsequent issues.

1957

Joan Callahan Frankhauser
mahlonandjoan@verizon.net

1958

Susannah Godlove
sgodlove@valleyhealthlink.com

I celebrated my 75th birthday on Jan. 6. That has been hard to say out loud. I am enjoying my new place on the second floor at Fort Loudoun Apartments. As activities therapy coordinator, I learn about crafts and how to use them each day. My knowledge of group therapy is still put to use, and I am responsible for various groups in health and wellness, and in patient education. It's not all work. As a member of the Friends of Handley Regional Library, I am involved in planning trips to Washington, D.C., for genealogy research at the DAR's national archives and the Library of Congress. I also serve on the board of the Shenandoah Arts Council in Winchester, Va.

Joyce Butler Allen's son, Johnny Allen Jr., went all out in helping her celebrate her 75th birthday at his farm in Shepherdstown, W.Va. Joyce was looking forward to her Handley High School reunion in May. She graduated in 1954, but the committee decided not to wait to have the reunion. Joyce spoke to **Alice Janklow Drucker** by phone, but they hadn't managed to have lunch together while Joyce was in New York City. **Carol Lehmann** made plans with Joyce to visit gardens in the Shepherdstown, Harpers Ferry, Charles Town, and Martinsburg areas of West Virginia with the Women Gardeners of Ridgewood, N.J. Carol was coordinating the plans for the trip and tours that were to be held April 29 through May 2. **Elizabeth "Betty" Gould** and Bob celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary in August.

I caught up on years of events during a long phone conversation with former suitemate **Sherrill Massie Judd '59**. The remodeling of her family home in Edinburg, Va., is complete and she was slowly moving in. However, as is the case with lots of us, the sale of her home in Richmond was slowing down the process. She will live close to **Dorothy Newland Heishman**, her Mary Washington roommate.

This is a gentle reminder: *You* are the Class Notes. When I do not receive correspondence from you, I have nothing to write. Please email, write, or call me. (I have voicemail.) Recently, I have had thoughts of resigning as class agent, but then I get a phone call or see someone, and I don't write my resignation. These are troubled times of aging, illnesses, and deaths; however, let's stick together and plan for our 55th reunion.

1959

Edna Gooch Trudeau
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Lucas will be 2 in April, his vocabulary is growing by the hour, and he is the busiest little boy. Already 36 inches, he'll probably be more than 6 feet tall, like old Tom. What a joy in my life!

Gloria Winslow Borden spent Thanksgiving with daughter Cynthia's family in Houston. Gloria took a Northern Lights cruise along the coast of Norway, and the highlight was going dog sledding in the Arctic. If any of you were on the Disney cruise ship *Magic* before March, you could have bumped into Gloria's granddaughters (Caroline's daughters), Kate and Beth Kirchner, who were working as youth activities directors. Gloria received visits in May from Beth's daughters. Rebekah visited at the end of a mission trip to Africa, and Grace joined Gloria for a trip to New York City. Michelle continues her studies at King's College. Cliff's wife, Lynda, was selected to be on the Pentagon Memorial committee to create educational materials for the classroom and proposed museum. Gloria spent the Christmas holidays with all her kids and returned home for the new year.

Lois Gaylord Allen's grandchildren are busy. Marcus Jr. is in college; Bryan attends Norwich University, the country's oldest private military college; Gianna is a high school senior; and McKayle is in eighth grade. Lois continues to be active on the county health board and works at the local humane shelter. Husband Howard was dealing with Parkinson's disease and degenerative disc problems. Lois heard from **Ruth Gaines Hepner** when Ruth and her sister were passing through on their motorcycles on the way to Atlantic City!

Barbara White Ellis attended her 50th high school reunion and visited old friends in Connecticut. In November, she was the 79th rider in the United States to earn membership in the Dressage Foundation Century Club. To qualify, the ages of the rider and horse must total 100. They must complete a skills test of maneuverability and gait changing. Her horse, Probable Cause, is a 28-year-old thoroughbred quarter horse, and they both came out of semiretirement to compete. Barbara spends much time around the barn on Caroline County's Broadview Farm, which she has owned with husband Allen for 23 years. She does her first feeding at 6 a.m. and her last at 11 p.m.

Lois Gaylord Allen '59 heard from Ruth Gaines Hepner '59 when Ruth and her sister were passing through on their motorcycles on the way to Atlantic City!

They board horses and have two of their own, and Barbara rides a minimum of three times a week. She also takes an aerobics class and works one day a week for a vet.

Jane Tucker Broadbooks and John celebrated their 50th anniversary in June of 2010. They took a cruise to Bermuda and spent Christmas with Jon Karl and his family in Springfield, Ill. **Ann Brooks Coutsoubinas** wrote that all is well, though cold and windy, in the big city. With budget cuts, her substituting jobs have diminished. Both Greg and Anastasia are fine, and Ann's dad is 92 and holding on.

I received a good-looking photo from **Catherine Swaffin Howard** with her seven grandchildren. **Marcia Phipps Ireland** and Gary celebrated their 50th anniversary river-cruising in France. It's a fine way to see the countryside. They traveled from Paris to Normandy, then back to Paris and south down the Rhine to Province and the Riviera. Their oldest granddaughter began her first year at Villanova University, and their youngest grandson entered kindergarten. Nick, 15, is in high school, and Larissa is the only girl on her ice hockey team. **Celeste "Pug" Shipman Kaufman**'s grandson, Smylie, attends Louisiana State University and plays on the golf team. Francie attends the University of Alabama and was on the national championship cheerleading squad in the spring. Austin is on track to graduate from Alabama in three years, is on the cross country team, and plans to pursue a master's degree in history. Luckie is a high school junior and plays point guard on the varsity basketball team. Sarah is in seventh grade, was awarded outstanding student of the year in her class last year, and is on the cross country team coached by brother Austin. Pug's husband, Alan, still enjoys coaching golf at the University of Alabama. They went to Pebble Beach and watched their player, Graeme McDowell, win the U.S. Open. Last summer they flew to Oregon; drove cross country to Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming; and ended in Summit County, Colo., where they rented a house for a week. Their annual football trip was to watch Columbia vs. Cornell in New York City.

Joni Whittemore Loock wrote that there was no hurricane this year, but the oil spill frightened tourists away, so summer was a loser. Rents picked up as the snowbirds arrived. Joni and Jim spent two weeks in Hawaii in March and two weeks in Playa del Carmen in October, and went to Madison for three football games. They visited grandchildren throughout the year. Kristen and Chad's daughter, Emily, is in kindergarten. The Raemisch kids are involved in football, track, swimming, archery, and other sports. Their daughter, Mardy, renamed her restaurant in Virginia Beach "The Blue Turtle" and made some attractive changes. Curt and Peggy's twins are in first grade. Last June, Jim had a knee replacement, which was more difficult than his hip replacements. Joni, who was diagnosed with breast cancer last July, completed her radiation treatments on Dec. 23 – a great Christmas present!

Barbara White Ellis '59 was the 79th rider in the United States to earn membership in the Dressage Foundation Century Club.

Barbara Gordon McNamee and Bob started last year with the sale of their house and the best-ever finish – eighth in the country – for the synchronized swimming team she coaches. She was expecting this year to be another good year for them. Barbara also teaches a water exercise class. Bob finally retired and is busy with two golf groups and lots of men's activities in the neighborhood. In July, they had their family beach week in Nags Head, N.C., with 28 in attendance. In October, they took a three-week trip of their dreams to China, starting in Beijing and ending in Hong Kong. They visited the Terra Cotta Warriors, the Great Wall, the Olympic Water Cube, Tibet, and Shanghai; cruised on the Yangtze River; and saw pandas. Their guide was excellent, and the 20 in their group are now good friends. In November, grandson Ryan (Karen's son) graduated from Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island, S.C.

Mary Massey and Jack Meiners took two Road Scholar trips this year, "Bridges and Beacons of Northwest Oregon" and "Hiking – Vive Le Quebec." They hiked on their own in the Adirondacks and joined Road Scholar in Quebec and Vermont. They volunteer at the Audubon Naturalist Society, having spent 18 years tutoring and attending cultural events and classes. Jack hiked 51 miles in September to celebrate his 91st birthday. Mary has a new volunteer activity: "Read and Relax" at Washington Animal Rescue League. She reads to shy, traumatized dogs to show them they can trust a human. She and Jack attended college graduation for two grandchildren, one in Oregon and one in South Carolina. Next year, they plan to attend the Meiners' family picnic in Walla Walla and a weeklong Appalachian Trail conference in southwest Virginia.

Barbara Ann Barndt Miller started the year by selling her firm in Pigeon Creek, Pa., which meant a lot of trips to New York and the cabin to move 45 years of accumulation. She also created a garden, mowed wild fields, and cleaned up the property. She returned to Pennsylvania to present the Ralph D. Miller Jr. Perpetual Memorial Challenge Trophy for the best Pennsylvania bred horse at the Devon Horse Show. Her daughter, Anne, joined her for a week in New York for the Genesee Valley Hunt Races and for Thanksgiving with family in Maine.

Arthur Old, **Eleanor Markham**'s widower, wrote of his July marriage to Martha, which was attended by children and grandchildren of Eleanor and Arthur's son. Arthur and Martha sold their houses and moved to Fredericksburg. Jim is with Booz Allen Hamilton, and his wife, Beth, is a nursing supervisor. Grandchild Parker is 7, and Tyler is 16.

Mary Massey '59 has a new volunteer activity, "Read and Relax," at Washington Animal Rescue League. She reads to shy, traumatized dogs to show them they can trust a human.

Patricia Gray Proulx's Dan fell over a rock while taking pictures of the sunset in Maine in August. He broke two bones, tore ligaments in his right ankle, and was using a cane and wearing a boot. They had to cancel a cruise and couldn't take advantage of their invitation to see **Marianne Carrano Raphaely** receive a life achievement award from the Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia during the Great Friend to Kids Award ceremony. Family and friends were there, including **Irene Piscopo Rodgers** and **Kay Rowe Hayes**. Marianne wrote that she was continuing chemo treatments and doing OK, with supportive family, friends, and neighbors. Marianne has curtailed her travels but did visit Chicago; Galveston, Texas; Nashville, Tenn.; Florida; and Connecticut. In July, they spent two weeks in France with Chris and his daughters. The first week was in a villa in southern France, and the second was in Paris. Marianne is still at the helm of four organizations. Doesn't sound like she's curtailing activities.

Ann Rollins Pyle is enjoying "grandmahood" with Arthur and Chester. **Sally Steinmetz** wrote that she is absolutely fine now. **Anne Saunders Spilman** spent the holidays with James and family in Mississippi, then drove down to Pennsylvania to visit her daughter and family. She and Bob traveled to Israel in May; it was one of their best trips ever. In August, she had a knee replacement that slows her down a bit. **Priscilla Brown Wardlaw**'s family is fine, and her mother celebrated her 100th birthday in January. **Charlotte Wohlnick Wiggs**' mother turned 95, also in January. The highlight of the year for Charlotte and Archie was visiting Tracy, Andy, Molly, and Anna in Vietnam in February. They took a side trip to Cambodia.

Sally Warwick Rayburn had an aortic valve replacement in January 2009 and spent March and April in rehab. Steve is still with Sandler Training, and Cindy, who teaches fourth grade, is in graduate school at Wake Forest University. Their daughter, Stephany, graduated from Wake Forest in May, and Jim and Sally attended. Stephany

was interning as a wardrobe
nistress at the Cincinnati
Shakespeare Company. Later
n May, Jim and Sally took a
one-week cruise to Italy and
southern France. They also
ook their annual trip to the
Winnebago Grand National
Rally with their granddaughter,
Samantha (Ginny's daughter),
who is 15 and a typical teenager.
They stopped in Huntsville,
Ala.; Mammoth Cave, Ky.; St.
Louis; Mitchell, S.D. (Corn
Palace, Mount Rushmore,
Custer State Park); Branson,
Mo.; and New Orleans. Ginny
ubstitute teaches, works
almost all the time, and wants
a classroom of her own. Her
7-year-old son, Andrew, is on
he honor roll and the swim
eam, and Sarah Kate, 12, is in
ixth grade, makes all A's, and
wims for the Gulf Coast Swim
Team with her brother. Sally
nd Jim's son, Dick, wife Angee,
nd daughter Hannah joined
he family for Thanksgiving.
Dick and Angee are chefs with
errible hours but like their
vork. Kelly is a freshman at the
University of South Carolina,
nd Hannah, 8, is in second
grade and loves to read. Sally
nd Jim planned a two-week
cruise for the holidays and a
ruise to Madrid, Spain, visiting
Toledo, El Escorial, the Royal
Palace in Madrid, and the
ummer palace in Segovia.

Irene Piscopo Rodgers
nd Don are happy, healthy,
nd busy. Between the two of
hem this past year, they were
n 16 states and four European
ountries. They attended four
veddings and went to the
Microscopy Society of America
neeting in Portland. Don was
speaker, and Irene presented
poster. In May and June, four
of Irene's cousins from England
visited for two weeks. The
highlight of their year was a
European trip. They spent three
days in a hotel on the Grand
Canal in Venice, then boarded
he *Queen Victoria* for a cruise
rom the Mediterranean to
he Adriatic and through the
Bosporus to the Black Sea. They
oured Greece (Olympia and
Athens); Istanbul, where they
oved the opulent palaces; and
stanbul's Grand Bazaar, with
housands of stores, mosques,
nd horrendous traffic. Next
vas Yalta, where they toured
he Livadia Palace; Odessa,
vith ornate and beautiful

Everglades Matter to Environmental Scientist

As a freshman, **Cassondra Thomas '92** thought she had it all figured out. She expected to spend four years studying chemistry at Mary Washington, then go to work for a consulting firm. But as she delved into her college career, things began to change.

"I was all over the place with my major … first chemistry, then economics. The great thing about Mary Washington was it allowed me to realize my true love – science," said Thomas, who eventually settled on a double major in economics and environmental science.

And though her professional life did begin as she predicted – at a consulting firm – the mainly administrative role she played there left her unfulfilled.

"After a while, I thought this was not what I wanted to be doing," said Thomas, 41. "I wanted to be the person attending the conferences … not the person getting coffee for the people attending the conferences."

Cassondra Thomas '92 has devoted her career to restoring the best-known wetlands in the U.S., the Florida Everglades.

Thomas returned to school. A decade later, armed with a master's degree in biology from East Carolina University and a doctorate in environmental sciences from the University of Virginia, she went back to work for a consulting company. This time, though, she was not fetching coffee.

As a senior scientist with Cardno TBE, Thomas embarked upon an ambitious project to breathe new life into an area heavily impacted by too much phosphorus from upstream agricultures – the Florida Everglades.

"My education at Mary Washington started me on the path that led to my significantly participating in the largest ecosystem restoration project ever undertaken by the United States," said Thomas, who has spent the past eight years working with a team of scientists to restore some of the country's best-known wetlands.

Her postdoctoral project on the wetlands around the Kennedy Space Center, farther north in Florida, had prepared her for some of the challenges of working in marshy environments. The wetlands there, Thomas said, had been heavily managed by man to control mosquitoes and attract migratory birds. As a result, some of the marshes had been degraded. Thomas and her team worked to restore them, with much success.

In the Everglades, Thomas said, "the cattails had taken over and the saw grass was gone. As a result, many birds and fish had left."

Braving alligators and snakes, she and a team of scientists spent years collecting samples and data, experimenting to see which options worked best, and setting up a long-term model that would allow them to study outcomes for the next 25 years. The results prompted a two-pronged approach. First, the South Florida Water Management District set up a water treatment storm system that removed the phosphorus from the water. Next, Thomas and her team set prescribed fires to tame the cattails and bring back the saw grass.

"I'm happy to say it is working," said Thomas, who continues to monitor Everglades water samples and wildlife activity.

Thomas and her husband, Chris, enjoy the West Palm Beach weather and all that Florida has to offer, but she misses Virginia. Thomas grew up in the Richmond area, and her pivotal undergraduate degree came from the Virginia school she calls "a secret gem."

"Much of my family is still there," she said. "But for now, I love the challenge of what I'm doing. It feels good to know you're making a difference."

– Janet Showalter

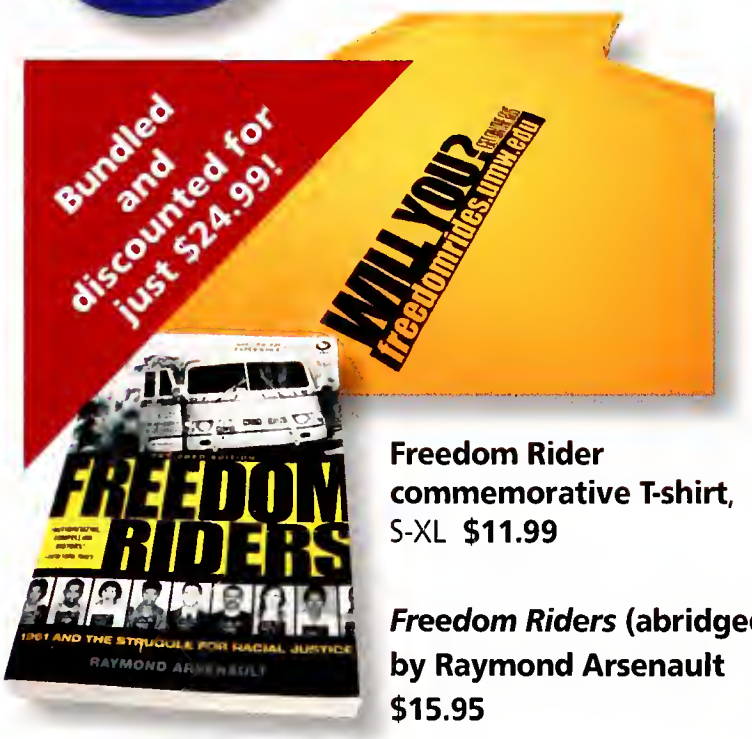
University of Mary Washington Bookstore

Camelbak Better Bottle
Available in blue, pink, red, and purple
$19.99

Gray Spirit Products mug
$8.99

Navy gym sack by Nike
$16.99

Alumni licens plate fram
$12.9



Freedom Rider commemorative T-shirt, S-XL **$11.99**

***Freedom Riders* (abridged) by Raymond Arsenault**
$15.95

Students Helping Honduras (SHH) and the UMW Bookstore have teamed up to sell merchandise crafted by artisans from Siete de Abril and Villa Soleada, communities in El Progreso, Honduras. Handmade by women artisans, all items are woven from 100 percent post-consumer snack bags and labels. Net proceed from the bags provide income for these entrepreneurs, many of whom struggle to provide food, housing, health care, and education for their families.

$4 – $29.99

Pack-N-Go pullover by Charles River Apparel
Available in navy and stone, S-XL
$33.99

Eyeglass retainer by Croakies
$9.99

Gray washed twill cap by Legacy
$19.99

UMW nylon residential banner
40" x 28"
$32.99

hurches and an impressive pera house; Ephesus, Turkey, n archaeological site with a 0,000-seat amphitheater; and cenic Sorrento and Pompeii.

Ann Spillman Watkins nd Bob planned to visit Irene nd Don during the holidays n their return trip from New ngland after being with their hildren, Linda and Bill. **Phyllis Hartleb Rowley** and Jim began he year with a long visit with hil and Jill's family in San rancisco. They helped with the our children by driving the boys o school, walking the girls to he bus stop, and helping with omework and other activities. aster found them back in San rancisco with Dave's family. hey helped remodel gardens and e-sod the yard. In August they acationed on Lake Erie, then ent to Niagara Falls, Canada. hey were back in San Francisco or Labor Day for golfing and party. They all planned to be ogether for Christmas. David on the men's stroke play hampionship at Quail Ridge ountry Club in January and set he new course record on opening ay in October.

Kay Rowe Hayes and Don omplain that ime passes too uickly! Their on, Tom, and ife Robin took cruise to the ahamas during hanksgiving, nd their sons, John and Matt, tayed with Kay and Don. The oys, who are pursuing Eagle wards in Scouts, are each nore than 6 feet tall. They've layed football and are getting nto basketball. Kay and Don's laughter, Kathy, works full ime at her brother's company, yan Homes, and has recovered rom her battle with cancer. er son, Kyle, is a sophomore nd quarterback at Christopher ewport University. Her laughter, Kari, who was to raduate from Fauquier High chool this year, hadn't chosen college but was focusing on hotography or journalism. ay and Don's daughter, Karen, nd her husband, Harry, ame home from Atlanta for he holidays and to help Don elebrate his birthday. Don ontinues to volunteer at The ook Cellar. Kay continues eaching GED math and has stepped down from Fauquier County politics. **Mary Carolyn Jamison Gwinn** writes that her 10-year-old grandson, Mason, is almost as tall as she.

So sorry to tell you we lost **Ann Caddy Morgan** in March. She is survived by a son, a daughter, and seven grandchildren. Our condolences go to Ann's family.

1960

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We've lost two classmates recently: **Carolyn Lawrence Jackson**'s husband informed us that Carolyn died in December due to complications of Parkinson's disease. **Betsy Hopkins Hays** wrote that her friend of 53 years, **Judy Saunders Lawrence-Wicks**, passed away in February after years of serious illnesses following breast cancer. Betsy and Judy were roommates in Betty Lewis freshman year and maid/matron of honor in each other's weddings.

Karen Larsen Nelson '60 and Darrell completed another season of dancing, learning nearly 50 new choreographed dances.

Jody Campbell Close devoted the winter to an online genealogy course, muddling through the technology involved. She wrote, "I know how to learn, I went to MWC after all ... but trying to jump several eras [of technology] at once is a challenge." A member of her local genealogy society, she developed a workshop to help Boy Scouts earn genealogy merit badges and realized how long it's been since she stood before a class or tried to corral a group of adolescent boys.

As for me (**Karen Larsen Nelson**), Darrell and I completed another season of dancing in Mesa, Ariz., learning – not memorizing – nearly 50 new choreographed dances. By the time you read this, our oldest granddaughter should have received her kidney transplant, be back in college, and be working part time again; her 20-year-old sister was to have made us proud great-grandparents of twins (a boy and girl – that will make three); and, at 17, the youngest sister in this family was to have traveled with us on her long-delayed "only child" camping trip through the western national parks – the other six grandchildren got their trips at age 12. (Travel-camping with a 17-year old in a very small camper should be interesting.) We planned to have a "quiet" July and August at "senior summer camp" in Show Low.

Syd Collson Chichester '60 volunteered with the Environmental Learning Center and planned to mentor a high school student and join a church group helping after the floods in Nashville, Tenn.

We are still receiving notes from ladies who attended our 50th reunion last year. **Nancy Cundiff Moir** attended some of Saturday's festivities, but she has been battling ovarian cancer since early 2007 and was not able to participate in everything. She has two children: a son in Jacksonville, Fla., and a daughter in Williamsburg. Nancy and her husband moved to Williamsburg from Richmond in 2008 and live just 10 minutes from their daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. Nancy retired in 2000 after 25 years of teaching in the Henrico County school system, and she and husband Lee celebrated their 50th anniversary in December. **Joan Scarritt Reynolds** wrote that she was happy that she followed through with last-minute plans to attend our 50th reunion and praised the committee members for their excellent work. Last year, Joan spent two weeks with friends in France, "where there were no crowds, few tourists, nice weather, and we were fortunate to have the use of a Paris apartment on Boulevard du Montparnasse." She also spent time in Normandy, staying on a horse farm with friends, and visited a UNESCO heritage site at Carcassonne.

Like it was for so many of us, 2010 was a year of "50s" for **Anne Angel McMarlin**. She and Bob celebrated 50th class reunions, hers at UMW and his at Virginia Tech, and their children threw them a surprise party for their 50th wedding anniversary, followed by a family vacation in West Virginia. **Bonnie Davis Hall**, husband Ross, and son Alex were in Hingham, Mass., for the 40th anniversary edition of *The Christmas Revels*. All three sang, and Ross and Alex danced. Bonnie didn't dance, as she was awaiting a new knee this spring. **Page Shafer Frischkorn** keeps history scrapbooks for the Northumberland County Historical Society and for her church and worked on the restoration of the 1844 county jail in her hometown, Lottsburg, Va. Page plays bridge and took a cruise with her daughter through Austria and Germany, returning in time for Christmas with the family and a snow-filled Virginia winter.

Joyce Neill Krost of Cleveland gets lots of grandchildren time, with three of her children living within a few miles of her. In the past years, she has gotten back to painting and loves it. She has spent time in Spain and Africa, painting and visiting her sister, who lives in Spain, and her son, Neill, a diplomat with the State Department who was living in Tunisia with his family. Joyce said that she is "thankful for my years at MWC and the liberal education that seems to have prepared me for whatever comes my way."

Syd Collson Chichester spent the winter at her place on the Indian River in Vero Beach, Fla. She volunteered with the Environmental Learning Center and took a canoe/kayak rescue/safety class so she could canoe in the Indian River lagoons. She got fingerprinted so she could mentor a student at Vero Beach High School. She planned to return to Fredericksburg in late March to join a church group going to Nashville, Tenn., to help after the floods there. In October, she planned to return to Africa, this time not for work with the church but to cruise on the Nile and see the sites. She wrote, "I figure, if not now, when?! I may be the most well-traveled person in the government-subsidized senior poor house!"

We've had "one-liners" from several of our classmates: **Nancy Cleaves Blaydes** and her husband spent the winter in Vero Beach, Fla., and visited with Syd, as did **Gay Hall Sullivan**. **Diane Delamarre Madgic** and Bob, her husband of 50 years, spent January in Palm Springs, Calif. **Betty Oliver Bridgeman** wrote, "New computer, new knee, and it's still great to live in Colorado." **Nancy Seward Howard** and her husband had a "spoiled brat" vacation at a friend's chateau in France that included a barge cruise on the Canal du Midi. **Dodie Tyrell** went to National Patron Weekend at the Metropolitan Opera for three days in December, attending three operas, a Broadway show, and related events. She planned to return to New York in March for the finals of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Bayla Goldberg Manis reported that she is "very well, thank you." **Sue Smith Goodrick** traveled to Australia and Asheville, N.C., and planned to cruise the Rhine in April. **Terry Eagles Dow** wrote that all was well at her house, and she won the prize for identifying the most people in our reunion picture.

1961

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Lynne Williams Neave (M – Z)
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[Please send news to the designated Class Agent according to the first letter of your MAIDEN name.]

From Connie: Our 50th reunion will be history when you read this, but ideas were generated at a Nov. 20 luncheon given by the Alumni Association at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond for nearby classmates. In addition to **Lloyd Tilton Backstrom**, our chief reunion event planner, those who attended were **Sara Ellen Flowers McKinney**, **Mary Turner Willett**, **Nancy Edmunds Morris**, **Becky Turner Perdue**, **Anne deButts**, **Cay Whichard Lewis**, **Patsy Hilgartner Bruckner**, and **Ann Hennessey Via**.

Andy and I thoroughly enjoyed our OAT trip to Patagonia in January, even though he was having back and sciatica problems. This being the year of reunions, **Mary Hatcher** organized one in April at Fort Monroe in Hampton, Va., for us "Army brats" who lived there as kids. **Lynne Williams Neave** and **Patty Cairns Hourin** also lived at the historic post, which is slated to be closed in September.

Ellen Gotwalt Willing '61 amassed a total of 57 miles of lap swimming at her swim club.

Always seeking lovely venues for their travels, **Eleanor Knight Jensen** and hubby Cliff spent their usual month in November/December in St. Barts in the Caribbean, then left in December from Fort Lauderdale for a Seabourn cruise to Los Angeles, traveling through the Panama Canal on Christmas Day. From there, they flew to Hawaii to spend the winter, first in Kauai and then Maui, when the tsunami hit in March. Cliff said, "Based upon our experience the past two years, we have nothing but compliments for the Civil Defense personnel in Hawaii. They are well rehearsed in evacuation planning." The Jensens were on the Big Island when the earthquake hit Chile last year. A spring trip to Italy was to prevent them from attending our reunion.

Jean Ryan Farrell and Frank travel to the Caribbean to dive in Curaçao each Thanksgiving. They also went to Vietnam, starting Christmas Day, and wound up in Singapore to visit son Robert's family, who were to relocate to the United States this year. The Farrells planned a trip to Turkey prior to Reunion Weekend. When home in Atlanta, they are involved in church and family activities, as their other two sons live there.

Beverly Stone Bowers '61 is a docent at the Bowers Museum and a volunteer gift-shop manager at Hoag Hospital Irvine in California.

In their Christmas letter, **Patty Cairns Hourin** and Jim admitted they haven't done a home exchange since 2004, as "air travel is no longer the pleasure it once was." Instead, they play lots of golf. Patty is busy with her duties on the vestry and as senior warden at their church. Two sons live nearby in Mississippi, and their third son, Scott, lives in Hawaii. Her lovely, healthy mother, Doris, lives in Washington, D.C., and is visited often by Patty, her brother, Doug, and his wife, **Dee Doran Cairns**. Doug and Dee spent Christmas in Italy with son Rob and family. Daughter Cathy and family are still close by in Montgomery, Ala., along with grandson Chris, a senior at Auburn University. New dog Gabby joined the family in January and is their personal trainer, leading Dee and Doug on long walks daily. Recent studies show – forget the treadmill, get a dog! Dee and Doug were to celebrate 50 years of marriage and Doug's 50th from the USAFA.

Ellen Gotwalt Willing had a year of ups and downs. Bill's son died of cancer in December 2009, and Bill developed spinal problems in June that restricted many activities, such as golf and long distance driving, and caused the cancellation of a major trip to a family wedding in Oregon. However, shorter trips were made to Bill's 60th reunion at the University of Pennsylvania, grandson Andrew's 11th birthday in Virginia, a wedding in Charlottesville, and a short vacation in Ocean City, Md. Ellen exercises regularly at the YWCA in York, Pa., and amassed a total of 57 miles of lap swimming at her swim club. They spent three months in Naples, Fla., again this winter, their 23rd year there.

Sarah Leigh Kinberg attended a grandson's wedding in Brandon, Ore., and saw granddaughter Laura join the Navy in April without getting seasick on her destroyer out of Jacksonville, Fla., during heavy storms. Sarah spent Thanksgiving at home in Stockton, Calif., with both "kids," Tommy and wife Christi, and Sarah Leigh, who lives in France but had a conference in San Francisco. Tommy is an avid stamp collector and Sarah helps him organize them for California stamp shows. The Kinbergs are celebrating the 50th anniversaries of Tom's USNA class and their marriage.

Clara Sue Durden Ashley and Clarence have 14 grandchildren, 10 boys and four girls! Seven of those are from son Park, who retired from the Air Force in December and has a civilian job at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio. The other three Ashley brothers are Chris in the Washington, D.C., area; Dennis in St. Augustine, Fla., where he works with the Navy as an environmental engineer; and Andrew, who works in D.C. for Honeywell. When Clara Sue and Clarence visit their hometown of Columbia, S.C., they attend luncheons for their high school classes. Clara Sue still works at the Vienna Quilt Shop in Virginia and is active in their church.

Those of you with email received the message that **Carmen Portenier Fare** died of Alzheimer's in December. Her roommates in Framar were **Betty Alrich Latta** of Los Altos, Calif.; **Carol Schock Furman**; and **Patsy Hilgartner Bruckner**. Betty told a lovely story of how "her Marine," Jerry Latta, got a blind date, Jim Fare, for Carmen for the Junior Ring Dance, and they subsequently got married! The two families got together in Wyoming in the summers until Carmen's health began to decline about 10 years ago. Jerry and Jim died within two weeks of each other in 2008.

Our **Kelly Cherry** has received another honor, having been named Virginia Poet Laureate by the governor in January! She has written 20 books and is a professor emerita of English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Congratulations! Kelly and **Sylvia McJilton Woodcock**'s husband, Stuart, were high school classmates. **Judy Early Bidwick** and husband Al continue to spend nine months each year in Venice, Fla., where they volunteer with the Coast Guard, go to the theater, boat with friends, and manage several cruises. They planned a weeklong spring trip to London and a cruise down the Seine. Three summer months in Ocean City, Md., allow them to see children and grandchildren and to enjoy fishing, crabbing, boating, and the ocean. Judy keeps in touch with **Lynn McCarthy**, **Betsy Taggart**, **Jane Hoffman**, and **Nancy Agee** through weekly

mail. Judy planned to be in Europe at the time of our 50th reunion this spring.

Pepper Jacobs Germer was preparing her Special Ministries, for which she has played piano for 27 years, for a public performance, *The Role of Music in the Lives of Special Needs Students*, to be held this spring. They spend much time maintaining their yard in Jonesboro, Ark., and their 108-year-old home, which is in good condition but described as "perpetual maintenance" by Hank. They were to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary after our 50th UMW reunion. Pepper said of Hank, "Quantico (and God!) brought him into my life. I met him on the steps of Hall dorm."

Three of us four classmates were in Wilmington, N.C. **Mary Hatcher**, **Elizabeth Stewart Grenzebach**, and I (**Connie Booth Logothetis**) got together for lunch in mid-February. **June Walton Lederle** and her husband were wintering in the Florida Keys, but we hope to all get together in the future. **Carolyn Barnette Wright** is happy taking care of five grandchildren, ages 4 to 10. During spring break, they went to the nature center, children's art museum, and other venues in the Fort Lauderdale area.

As I write this in mid-March, my thoughts are on the awful tragedy of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. **Janie Riles**' daughter, Annelise, husband Hiro, and young son were in Tokyo, where she had been working for six months as a professor of anthropology and Far East legal studies with Cornell Law School. As of her latest email, they were fine, but life was uncertain with the continuing effects of nuclear reactor damage and aftershocks. We pray for all the people in Japan. Thank you all for sending news and I hope to have seen many of you in June!

From Lynne: A special thank you to those classmates who responded to my very tardy request for news. We were on a cruise around New Zealand and Australia until early March, and I totally forgot to send out the notice. I hope it was jet lag and not senility!

Sylvia McJilton Woodcock and Stuart spent two weeks visiting relatives and friends in Florida. Their oldest daughter was planning an October wedding, her first, to a man she's dated for nine years. Sylvia said he already is a member of and great addition to the family. They both are graduates of the College of William and Mary, and the ceremony is to take place at the Wren Chapel.

Jane Waln Rockhold was not going to be able to attend our reunion as her daughter was expecting a baby to be delivered by Cesarean on May 25. Her little girl was to be 16 months at that point, so Jane was needed in Atlanta to help. **Graham Walker Burns** still feels very connected to our class and regrets that a family wedding in North Carolina conflicted with Reunion Weekend. **Judy Saunders Slifer** and **Eleanore Saunders Sunderland** enjoyed four days with cousins in Sarasota, Fla., in January and were to take their third Viking cruise in May, traveling from Amsterdam to Budapest and stopping at 13 ports. Judy and Bob both are on chemo and, fortunately, having few problems.

Ann Reardon Crowley Rowe '63 hosts a writers group and is working on a novel about a haunted house. She is interviewing descendants of people who lived in the hollows of Shenandoah National Park in 1934.

Katherine Nell Robinson May and Richard traveled to Hawaii. They continue with short noncredit classes through the Christopher Wren Association at the College of William and Mary and spend time with their five precious grandchildren. **Sandy Walters Julifs** of Sterling, Ill., wrote that one of her granddaughters was the 13-year-old 2010 AAU national javelin champion in Virginia Beach. Sandy regretted that she wouldn't be able to attend our reunion because they were to have been at another granddaughter's eighth-grade graduation in California. They have another eighth-grader and a high school senior, who also were to have graduated.

Attending our reunion was to be a welcome break for **Beverly Stone Bowers**, who has retired and spends most of each week at either the Bowers Museum, where she is a docent, or Hoag Hospital Irvine in California, where she is a volunteer gift-shop manager. **Lynne Wilson Rupert** and Jim enjoyed a month-long cruise in January from Los Angeles around South America and Cape Horn before flying home from São Paulo, Brazil. **Sylvia Mulling Maldonado** was enjoying retirement in Stanardsville, Va., near the mountains.

Pam Ristori Sigda and husband Bob have lived in Boca Raton, Fla., for 13 years and love it. Pam is a licensed psychologist with a busy private practice. She spent years counseling in schools up north while her three children were young, and she became a professor at Hofstra University. She still goes back to Hofstra to teach summer graduate courses. Her beautiful family includes daughter Kimberly and sons Robert and Todd, all of whom are happily married, and eight grandchildren, four girls and four boys. Todd and his family are in Fort Lauderdale, but the Sigdas travel north a lot to visit the rest of the family. Kimberly is an attorney and a partner in her husband's New York firm, Robert is senior vice president at Smith Barney, and Todd is CEO of North American Telecom. All work hard but travel and have wonderful family lives. Bob and Pam are active in their church and community, love to travel, and try to get to Europe each year. They also enjoy cruises and often leave for a week, as it is so easy from Fort Lauderdale. Bob had a major heart attack, open heart surgery, and mechanical valve implant in 2008, but he calls himself a technological miracle and his life is back to normal. They are grateful to God for this and all their blessings. Pam said they'd try to make it to Reunion Weekend in June.

Elizabeth Anne Wright Coxe has fond memories of her first two years at Mary Washington. Even though she went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Goucher College and a master's of liberal arts from Johns Hopkins University, her best college memories are from Mary Washington, especially with roomies and suitemates **Dee Doran**, **Connie Booth**, **Janie Riles**, and **Clara Sue Durden**. Elizabeth was looking forward to our 50th reunion and grateful to have made it to this point in life. Her only grandchild, 5-year-old Alice, is a highlight, and Elizabeth is loving every minute of being a grandparent!

Nancy Booth '64 received her Ph.D. from Rutgers University and is an associate professor teaching ESL at Hudson County Community College in New Jersey.

In September **Lloyd Tilton Backstrom** rented a small, picturesque cottage at Bourton-on-the-Water in the Cotswolds and toured daily from it. It was heaven! They love to see the large stones in various countries and especially enjoyed them in that area. They toured Buckingham Palace and kept the wedding carriage in their mind's eye. They skied in Vail, Colo., in December and in Sun Valley, Idaho, in January.

1962

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1963

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When Class Notes were due, I was still working my way through the alphabet, contacting class members for input, so if I hadn't contacted you, it was because I hadn't gotten to your part of the alphabet. Don't let that keep you from sending me news at the above email address!

My husband, Jonathan, and I planned another trip to Italy, this time to Tuscany and Umbria, but sandwiched between granddaughter Mary Margaret's First Communion and the June

Entrepreneur Takes the Hassle out of Attending High-Stakes Events

He lives and works just an hour from campus, and sometimes **Stephen Wilson '94** likes to drop by the University of Mary Washington, park his car, and walk around.

"It's a beautiful place," he said. "I can remember the way it felt to be there and what a great time it was."

But it was the rigorous coursework he did at Mary Washington, not the fun, that sealed Wilson's success. As founder and CEO of River City Hospitality LLC, a boutique provider of premium event planning and consulting services in Richmond, he's the guy to call for a deluxe, no-problems experience at an event like the Super Bowl or the U.S. Open golf championship.

Wilson majored in history, not business, but he's found the college courses he completed, especially for certain professors, invaluable to his accomplishments in the corporate world.

After two years at a junior college, Wilson chose to pursue his four-year degree at UMW "because I wanted to go to an elite school," he said. "When I visited Mary Washington, I liked it right away."

And he liked what he found there once classes started. "It was hard," he said, laughing. "But you want your college to challenge you. A good education makes you nimble. It facilitates success."

His professors asked much of him. He recalls two in particular in the history department, Otho C. Campbell, now retired, who "was just a great professor," and Claudine L. Ferrell, who pushed for excellence.

"She had a way of getting you to write your papers to the best of your ability," Wilson said. "She taught me how to do what it takes to make a great argument."

That skill has contributed to the prosperity of River City Hospitality, which serves Fortune 1000 companies, among them giants like Microsoft and Coca-Cola.

"I became a very confident marketing and sales person," Wilson said. "When I started my own company, I was sure I could get the clients we needed."

The academic challenges history major Stephen Wilson '94 met at Mary Washington helped him compete and succeed in the business world. He plans business excursions during premier sporting events and delivers hassle-free experiences.

After working in New York for a larger company that provided services similar to the ones he offers now, Wilson decided to move back to Virginia and become his own boss. He started River City in 2008, and, though it's still small, he said it's been profitable every year despite the off-kilter global economy.

If a company is taking a group to the Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, Ga., for example, River City will set the group up with tickets, a luxurious home to stay in, transportation (comfortable but not too ostentatious, unless that's preferred), meals, and entertainment.

"Augusta's not a big place," Wilson said. "You need contacts in order to get tickets. There aren't a lot of five-star hotels, so you have to know people who are willing to turn over their house for a week."

And though he has to work hard to make sure events come off without a hitch, Wilson, who lives in Richmond with his wife, enjoys being there himself. So far, he's been to nine Masters Tournaments and 10 U.S. Opens.

"That's the biggest fringe benefit of my job," he said.

– Randy Hallman

due date of Jennifer's fourth baby. We thought it was another girl (which would make seven granddaughters), but she wasn't telling. Jonathan is fluent in Italian so that makes traveling there more fun. Later in the summer, we planned our annual trip to the Jersey Shore with all the children and grandchildren.

Ann Reardon Crowley Rowe and husband Mack planned to meet Jonathan and me in Warrenton, Va., for brunch in March. Annie and Mack also planned trips to St. John and New York. Annie's Amazon book-selling business has really taken off, selling an average of a book a day. She hosts a writers group and is working on a novel about a haunted house, interviewing descendants of people who lived in the hollows of Shenandoah National Park in 1934.

Mary Russell and I get together every few months in Bethesda, Md., and sometimes are joined by **Alice Eckenrode Alkire**. We've tried to plan a getaway with former suitemates **Sally Sutherland** and **Cynthia Whitaker Finnelly** with no luck so far due to conflicting schedules. Cynthia and fiancé Dan Weinrich planned a springtime Caribbean cruise. They moved last year to a 55-plus community in Cary, N.C., near daughters Erin and Heather, and they love it.

Catherine Stinnett Gibson is retired and moved seven years ago from Northern Virginia to Destin, Fla., on the Gulf Coast, where the beaches are lovely. Catherine is in touch with **Nancy Gibbs**, who retired to her hometown in North Carolina; with roommate **Betsy Lennox**; and with **Mary Saunders Latimer** of Suffolk, Va., who visited last year. **Judy Ross Flora** retired in January after 33 years as a Realtor in Whitsett, N.C. She and her husband have three children and three grandchildren. In November, Judy and roommates **Sheryl Gilmore Winkler** of Haymarket, Va., and **Mary Frances Pace Herrin** got together with **Margie Smith** for what sounded like a fabulous long weekend in New York.

Joyce Stillman Gibbings, who attended Mary Washington for two years and finished at Old Dominion, retired in 2002 after 29 years teaching kindergarten in

Virginia Beach. She and husband Bill, a VMI graduate, have two children and four grandchildren. Joyce is in touch with **Joanne Robinson Respess** of California, and they attended our 25th reunion together.

Stay in touch! I love hearing from all of you.

1964

Victoria Taylor Allen
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I know that those of you who live in the North and Midwest were happy to get out of your igloos. What a winter we had in New York! Snow and more snow. As I write this article from northern Westchester County, N.Y., we are expecting a bit more.

Even in late February and early March, I was looking at giant snowdrifts, doling out tons of birdseed, and negotiating the trip to my office at Convent of the Sacred Heart in Greenwich, Conn. I was to be a guide and lecturer on a school-sponsored trip in July with 12 members of our faculty and staff to France, where the religious order I work with was founded in 1800.

It has been a pleasure to hear from so many of you. **Marilyn Horvath Wriede** and I began exchanging newsy emails in December, when she wrote inquiring about my trip to Ireland last summer with the Harvard Alumni Association. Marilyn and her family live in Needham, Mass., and her daughter, Stephanie, works at Harvard, so she was naturally interested in Harvard's trips. As native New Yorkers who lived close to New York City in 2001, we shared memories of the disaster of Sept. 11 and of our own early years in the area. Marilyn wrote, "Life is too short, and we should all enjoy it. Let's keep in touch." Well said, Marilyn!

Betty Ambler Monroe saw her dear friend and former roommate **Janet Davis Edson** in autumn at Betty's daughter's wedding. She said Janet looks great and recently moved to a new home in Fredericksburg, where she has lived for some time. Betty's daughter, **Anne Barbour Wambersie '06** of Mobile, Ala., received her master's degree in geography from the University of Tennessee and is married.

I keep in touch with **Ruth Pharr Sayer**, who lives in New Jersey, spends time on Nantucket in the summer, and is in real estate. She had been recovering from spinal surgery and a hip replacement and was feeling better. Husband John had a recurrence of blood cancer, which had been in remission since 2003. In October, he underwent three and a half weeks of radiation therapy at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. We are all thinking of you, John! Ruth and John have seven grandchildren, only one of whom, Hope, is a girl. I taught upper school English for a number of years at Convent of the Sacred Heart in Manhattan, and Ruth and I were delighted when Hope was admitted there. Their youngest grandchild, Christian, was baptized at St. James in New York City in November.

We send our sympathy to **Sharon Haythorne Stack**, whose husband, Pete, passed away in March. I know that you will keep her in your thoughts. Sharon and I were suitemates our junior and senior years and touched base again at our 40th reunion, where we spent much time laughing our heads off. So, don't forget the 50th; it's a great way to meet up again with dear old friends.

We send our sympathy to **Margaret Goode Watkins**, who lost her husband last year. Margaret lives in Campbell County, Md., and has a cabin on Pleasant Lake in the Adirondacks. On her way home from there last summer, she stopped by Ruth's home in Princeton, N.J

Melinda Wilson Watterson said she spent two wonderful years at Mary Washington, until she transferred to the University of Oklahoma in her home state in 1962 to complete a degree in laboratory technology. The alumni news is her way of keeping up with what's going on with Mary Washington grads. Melinda lived in Betty Lewis as a freshman and in Marshall as a sophomore. Her favorite memories include those of riding classes, going to JFK's inauguration, parties at Annapolis, the Marine Corps birthday party, and her academic classes.

Melinda and her husband of 42 years, Chuck, who died in 2005, spent their careers in small animal veterinary work; she ran the office and he was the veterinarian. Melinda loves recognizing names of friends she knew long ago in the alumni news.

Helen Vakos Standing had a great reunion in Richmond with **Sally Crenshaw Witt**, **Sara Page Cosby Mayo**, **Barbara Humphries Davenport**, **Joanne Crockett Lewis**, **Sue Parker Burton**, and **Diane Dorin Clarke**. **Becky Spears Wright** was the only one missing. Apparently, they visited the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and had dinner at Sally's. Helen and Mike of Virginia Beach spend their winters playing golf at their home in Fort Myers, Fla. She has four grandchildren, three boys and one girl, and hopes we'll come to our 50th class reunion in 2014. "It is quite a milestone."

Joyce Ward Dunn '65 had a busy 18 months as a town commissioner, which, she said, is fun and mentally challenging but takes a lot of time.

Marilou Pollock Lundberg met Charlie when he was at Quantico, Va., and they've been married for 46 years. Two of their five grandchildren live in New Zealand, and she and Charlie try to visit at least once a year. A daughter and her family live close by in Costa Mesa, Calif., and their son and his family live in Chico, Calif. Marilou loves to read our class news! I do hope that none of the family lives close to Christchurch, where the terrible earthquakes struck.

An interesting letter from **Susan Orebaugh Nicholson** told of the UMW visit to Atlanta. Susan, along with **Pat Prewitt Clay**, **Karen Murrell Foreman**, and **Norma Jean McClanahan Bueschen**, greeted President Hurley. Susan's new book, *7-Day Menu Planner for Dummies*, hit shelves in October and was for sale at the UMW bookstore and elsewhere. Susan wrote, "friend me," and I will for sure, as I enjoy using Facebook to discover former students and exchange messages with church members and others. Congratulations go to **Nancy Booth** on receiving her Ph.D. from Rutgers University. She is an associate professor teaching ESL at Hudson County Community College in New Jersey. She wrote that she is not ready to retire, but after all the snow this past winter, she's thinking of relocating.

Patti Jones Schacht and her husband live in Florida and are active in their church's volunteer ministry to nursing homes. They enjoy watching the residents' faces light up as they sing favorite "old time" songs. Bless you, Patti, for this important ministry to those in their senior years, a period of life we are fast approaching. Patti and her husband love, as I do, working on genealogy and traveling abroad. They plan a river cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest in September.

Sally Crenshaw Witt and I talk once or twice a week, catching up and exchanging thoughts on everything from food to flowers to politics. Sally participates in Virginia's Historic Garden Week, which is one week of sheer loveliness all over that beautiful state. **Jayne Gosnell Helm**'s husband, Michael, emailed that Jayne suffered a major stroke last October, and, as I write this at the end of February, she is receiving a great deal of therapy and beginning to improve. Jayne, you are in our thoughts, as is Michael.

Carol Meese '65 and her husband missed the Thailand tsunami by 24 hours, canceling air and hotel reservations, and missed the uprising in Cairo, Egypt, by 24 hours.

That's all for now, folks! Please email your news to me at the address above. It's heartwarming that so many have said they enjoy hearing about class members! Our next news is due Nov. 15; don't forget to include your maiden and married names. It is a real joy to hear

from you. Above all, don't ever think that your news is "nothing special," for it is meaningful and interesting and keeps us in touch with old friends and classmates. What a great bunch of intelligent, hard-working women we are! We wear many hats, indeed. Warm, good wishes to each and every one of you. Don't forget to write!

1965

Phyllis Cavedo Weisser
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I want to thank so many classmates for sharing their news for this edition. There are 251 of you on my active mailing list. If you're not one of them, I want to add you so you can see the unedited version of these amazing women's stories. Please email your news to the address above.

I continue to travel often, mostly to California, where both my children and all three grandchildren are. In addition to two trips there, I have plans for trips to North Carolina, Virginia Beach, and Hilton Head Island, S.C., this spring. This summer, I planned to head to Maryland and to Arlington, Va., for my 50th high school reunion. I still play tennis in two leagues at home in Atlanta and am back in the duplicate bridge community.

Louise Stevens Robbins gradually is finding her balance after her husband's death in December 2009, and she planned to retire in May after 20 years on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. **Diane Copty Fadely** and husband Milt went to Robby's memorial celebration in June, and **Felicity Hallanan** keeps in touch from upstate New York. **Sandy Byrum Smith** spent three days in January at the Harry Potter theme park in Orlando, Fla., with the oldest granddaughter and her daughter, and three days in March at Disney World with the two youngest grandchildren and their parents. She volunteers helping people in crisis in her church through Stephen Ministries. **Penny Partridge Booth** bought a sewing machine and started selling hats she has knitted and felted and toddlers' garments at craft shows and street fairs. She said she knows she's late starting a new career, but it is fun! **Carol Meese** and her husband missed the Thailand tsunami by 24 hours, canceling air and hotel reservations, and missed the uprising in Cairo, Egypt, by 24 hours. They travel a lot and enjoy good health, nine grandchildren, and retirement. She continues to paint in oil, with four galleries representing her.

Ann Moser Garner lost Clarence, her husband of more than 45 years, to cancer in December after a brief but valiant fight. Clarence was the son of Mrs. Mattie Garner, housemother of Randolph and Bushnell for many years. Ann was beginning her 30th year with King William High School and still loves her job. **Sigrid Daffner** and her partner, Alex, traveled to Germany for a month to visit her family. They were in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Munich, and Berlin, and visited her cousins in Bolzano, Italy. It was great to see the family and refresh her German, which is important to her since, even though she is retired, she still teaches one class at Monterey Peninsula College in California. Shortly after she earned her master's degree, she taught German at Mary Washington, and actually taught while former fellow students were still there.

Anne Hunter Pass '65 used her art history degree to work as a curator, first in fine arts, and then in folk art at the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

Carole Kessler Stockberger wrote that their retirement has been one of surgeries and travel. She has had five foot surgeries but still walks three miles a day to control diabetes, high blood pressure, and cholesterol. Her husband was recuperating from surgery for an abdominal aortic aneurysm but hoped to be in shape for their Mediterranean cruise in May. They went on safari in Africa in January, to Alaska in July, and to Eastern Europe in November and December. They enjoy their grandchildren and their great-granddaughter, and are avid golfers.

Joyce Ward Dunn had a busy 18 months as a town commissioner, which is fun and mentally challenging but takes a lot of time, and her golf game has gone from bad to worse! This year she's also involved with members of her high school graduating class, putting together their 50th reunion at St. Mary's Academy in Alexandria, Va. **Janice Helvey Robinson** and husband Rob are still happily retired in the Atlanta area, where their family also lives. They have three granddaughters with the addition of Samantha Grace. They still travel even though Rob had rotator cuff surgery and a hip replacement last year. They enjoyed a fast-paced trip to the British Isles in August 2010, then traveled to Israel and Egypt in December. Their choir was invited to sing in Manger Square in Bethlehem, and they toured all of Israel and even were re-baptized in the Jordan River. Next, they spent four days in Cairo.

Paula Beurger Reilly travels to Chicago for the opera and to visit her daughter and belongs to two book groups. Her husband planned to retire this summer. **Janet Hess Bello** cruised to Fort Pierce City Marina, Fla., after a journey from New Hampshire that started in October. **Joanne Lott Byrne** and Dick, her significant other, went to the Rose Bowl and Rose Parade in Pasadena, Calif., with her son, Jason, director of athletics marketing for Texas Christian University, and his wife, Rebekah, over the holidays. They were happy that TCU won, and they spent a few nights with Joanne's senior-year roommate, **Marcia Pexton Peura '66**, and her husband. Joanne retired last July and has more free time to read, manage investments, paint, and play golf.

Murray Roberts Mux writes that her two "boys" are in their 40s: Jay is a director at TAIC, and Ben is an attorney. She married her second husband, Victor Mux, in 1995. Together, they have 10 children – including in-laws – and 10 grandchildren. They lived in San Antonio, Houston, and Austin, Texas; Philadelphia; and Rock Hill, S.C. Victor is Guatemalan, so they have been to Central America many times and do mission work in Honduras and Guatemala, furnishing school supplies and newborn clothing to those in need. In recent years, they've visited Spain, Portugal, Egypt, Italy, Israel, and Greece. They also hike and camp in U.S. national parks.

Julia Lynn Bard Jones retired in 2005 from an IT management consulting career that spanned her entire adult life and allowed her to always have new projects and travel extensively. Her husband passed away in 2006 within weeks of learning he had cancer. Since then, she's volunteered at the hospital, golfed, quilted, and traveled, mostly to visit her three children and seven grandchildren. Julia and **Katherine "Kacky" Hudson Fox** planned to visit **Mary Alice "Lisa" Johnson Roberts** in San Francisco and hoped that **Donna Kakalec Jenson** would be able to join them.

Anne Hunter Pass used her art history degree as a curator, first in fine arts, then in folk art at the State Museum of Pennsylvania. She has two children. She and husband Wendell restored a Pennsylvania farmhouse near Carlisle and one near Mechanicsburg and collected Pennsylvania antiques to fill them. They started an antiques business when he retired in 2000. Wendell died seven years ago, having contracted a rare autoimmune disease, so Anne now shares the business with son Karl, a private curator who writes about antiques. Karl has no children yet, but daughter Laura has two girls, ages 5 and 7, and is an associate curator of prints, maps, and paintings at Colonial Williamsburg. Anne and **Priscilla Barnes Johnsen**, who lives in South Weymouth, Mass., with husband Dan, have

Catherine Cantwell Luria '66, a nurse practitioner who specializes in treating patients with psychiatric issues, was re-elected to the board of directors of ARNPs United of Washington State, an umbrella organization of nurse practitioners throughout Washington.

visited each other for more than 40 years.

After falling up the stairs and jamming her shoulder a year ago, **Karen Marsteller Myers Nash** finished physical therapy in time to take on a contract to write a white paper for the Naval Surface Warfare Command, which she delivered in August. She had hip replacement surgery in November. **Lee Smith Musgrave**, **Brenda Hand Waters**, and **Judy Strawbridge Dickinson** were working on a committee to plan their Granby High School 50th reunion. **Susan Ford Irons** taught English and Spanish for 33 years in Virginia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and southern California. She retired about 10 years ago but substitutes at her former high school and is a university supervisor for the student teaching program at Cal Poly Pomona. She and Jim have been married 38 years; have a 31-year-old son, Tyler; and enjoy traveling, hiking, cooking, and spending time at their place in the mountains at Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

Donna Gates Mason's 92-year-old mother passed away in October. Donna's husband passed away two weeks later after a two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Her brother also succumbed to cancer early this year. Donna is thankful for the support of her friends and family, and still works a few days a week at a community college. Between them, **Cheryl Gonzales Yancey** and husband Henry have five children and six grandchildren. Cheryl still works part time, but they travel when they can. She spent 12 years in PR and development for the Richmond Symphony and 18 years in university advancement at VCU. She retired from VCU more than seven years ago but still works there part time. Cheryl often has lunch with **Sandra Clay Copler**, who lived all over the world while Tom was in the Air Force and retired with him in Montpelier, Va.

Helen Hutton Smith meets **Donna Gates Mason** and **Joan Peatross** for birthdays. **Anabel Williams Greenlee** and husband John became grandparents again when Finian Wyatt Greenlee greeted the world in December. John presents research at scientific meetings, so they vacation in interesting places. They were in Spain in October and Hawaii in April. Anabel taught English and history in the '60s and early '70s, retired to have three children, and substituted for 15 years before definitively retiring three years ago. They hike, bike, and snowshoe, and were training a bird dog, their eighth in a string of Brittanies. Daughter **Harriet Greenlee-Herndon '93** got back to ultra racing this fall and finished a 50-mile trail run in northern Minnesota in about 12 hours. Since having children, ages 6 and 8, she had contented herself merely with marathons. She also teaches and was training her Australian shepherd as a service and therapy dog. Anabel's third child, Margaret, a federal government wildlife biologist, works with eagles. Anabel and **Felicity Hallanan** reconnected at the 40th reunion and met last year while Felicity was in Utah.

Cathy Haringer Christiansen '70 has entered many gingerbread house competitions, and her 2010 gingerbread house, a gingerbread Globe Theatre, was on Good Morning America *on Christmas Eve.*

Margaret Cobourn John had been busy for two and a half years tracking down high school classmates in anticipation of her 50th reunion. Now she's concentrating on getting back to a svelte 125 pounds. She and significant other Kenny were looking forward to exploring the Northeast following the reunion. **Margo Obst Dunn** spends two weeks in London several times a year visiting son Michael, a partner in a British law firm, and his family. He, Laura, and the girls (another girl was due in June) live in Hampstead Garden Suburb. Daughter Penny of Columbia, Md., remarried in October; was expecting her first child, a boy, on April 1; and is an operating room nurse at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md. Several years ago, Margo and husband Peter, a geophysicist, bought an old stagecoach stopover built in 1786. She retired after 25 years as a CPA and moved to Vermont, where they have 25 acres of mostly wooded mountain. Margo has a huge organic vegetable garden and flowers everywhere, and is outside from dawn to dusk during the warm months. She and Peter have traveled the globe during their 42 years of marriage. They planned a trip to Peru in late April to hike part of the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

Mary Carter Sale Alligood and husband Fred of Midlothian, Va., enjoy their retirement. Early this year, they returned from Dublin, Ireland, where their youngest grandchild, their seventh, was baptized. Their daughter-in-law is from Ireland and many of her relatives live there. Son Carter of Chicago has four children. Daughter Anne has three children and lives nearby. They continue to enjoy their vacation home on the Pamlico River in North Carolina. Mary sees **Sallie Anne Vaughan Powell** and **Betty MacCubbin Barden** often. She and Betty participate in church activities and are involved in volunteer tutoring at a middle school. **Katharine Dodd Hardin** met her husband, married, and began teaching in Richmond. They raised their two sons in Hendersonville, Tenn.; Hagerstown, Md.; and her hometown, Front Royal, Va. During those years, Katharine taught preschool and kindergarten. They moved to the little fishing town of Southport, N.C., in 1996 and both are now retired and enjoying the town and new friends. Their sons married and have thrilled them with four grandchildren, ages 2 to 6. Katharine sees her roommate, **Martha Jo Dillard Walters**, often.

The official home of Sheri Gates Brindle '67 is their boat in Sanford, Fla., about midway between Orlando and Daytona.

1966

Katharine Rogers Lavery
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I was elected in February to a three-year term on the vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church, a small historic church in Centreville, Va., that I've been associated with since high school. Although I've played my cornet and trumpet there since 1973 and have served in various capacities, this is my first experience serving on a vestry and a challenge I embrace. Hank and I are still active in the Pentagon Sailing Club – he with sailing and motor maintenance, and I with social gatherings, meetings, and sewing spinnaker bags! We took a break in March to drive to Long Island for our sister-in-law's birthday celebration, which included a limo ride into New York City to see the fantastic show *Jersey Boys*. We traveled to Brevard, N.C., in the beautiful Smoky Mountains in May for brother Ron's 75th birthday. After our family beach vacation on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, we plan to go to Chicago in August for a family wedding. My tutoring schedule will resume when school reopens in September.

Barbara "Bobbi" Bishop Mann spent months organizing correspondence and events for our 45th reunion in June. There were meetings and conferences to attend, rough drafts to write, and dinner and hotel arrangements to make. She did everything wonderfully well to make our reunion a resounding success. Special thanks go, too, to **Lee Enos Kelley** and **Jana Privette Usry** for co-chairing the 45th Reunion Gift Committee, and to **Kathleen Goddard Moss** for handling the reservations and funds for our Friday night class dinner at Brock's Riverside Grill. With so many of us participating, the Class of 1966 is awesome, according to the Alumni Association! Bobbi represented our class in March, along with **Tyla Matteson** and **Anne Vaden Hodges**, at a Mary Washington reception at the Country Club of Virginia in Richmond. It was well attended by a large group who enthusiastically received President Rick Hurley's long-range plan to make UMW the best public liberal arts university in America. He also described the major developments and renovations, which are of interest to all of us.

Bobbi corresponded with **Carolina Eaton Ipock**, whose

sons, Lee and Brian, were taught in elementary school by Bobbi. Carolina retired, moved to Prospect, Va., near Farmville, and met "someone special." Her sons have good jobs and families of their own. Bobbi also heard from **Sandy Roscoe Morse**, who wasn't going to be able to attend our reunion because it coincided with her trip to Istanbul, but she plans to attend other alumni functions. **Marty Spigel Sedoff** said last winter that she and her family were having a glorious year. Sons John and Jim each have lovely girlfriends, husband Bob was receiving kudos for his theater set designs, Marty was loving retirement, and they got a dog named Newton from the animal shelter. The family gained a new member, John's son, Grey, making Marty a grandmother.

Pam Kearney Patrick displayed a watercolor of a scene in Santorini depicting a man riding a donkey through the village as part of the *Miniature Marvels* exhibit, which ran from late April to late May at the Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum in Bethesda, Md. Pam also was featured in a reception to meet the artists. **Caroline Hogeland Stone** moved from Miami to Annapolis, Md., and took a job as director of admissions at Annapolis Area Christian School. Caroline reconnected with **Susan Roth Nurin**, also in Annapolis, and planned to attend our reunion with **Joan Cuccias Patton** and **Michelle Spicknel Pasternak '67**, one of her Madison suitemates.

Midge Meredith Poyck said the January shooting in Tucson, Ariz., was "too close to home," since it occurred only 5 miles from her house. Moreover, Suzi Hileman, one of the injured victims, is Midge's hiking buddy. Midge was counting her blessings and making plans to see us all at the reunion. **Betsy Chappelear Tryon** was to miss the reunion because of a conflict with a trip to Scotland for a giant family wedding and reception. She's already planning for our 50th in 2016! **Winnie Woodson Stribling** and Brad are retired, but she continues to work part time. She's still amazed by how well their "little preemie" daughter, Sarah, is doing as a student at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif. Winnie planned to return east to visit friends and relatives in Richmond and take a look at UMW, and perhaps accomplish this before our 50th reunion.

Ann Martin Allen was to forgo our reunion because her mother was terminally ill. Ann recently traveled to North Carolina to visit her and was involved in the planning of her interment at Arlington National Cemetery, where her father was buried 10 years ago. Ann felt honored to have family members laid to rest among the military personnel, marked by a sea of orderly white crosses. Ann requested we remember her at the reunion with a mention of her mother, who many of us knew at Mary Washington.

Mary Grace Wright Day planned to attend our reunion with **Kay Dawson Meyers**, her dear friend and former roomie. Mary's husband of 43 years, Wayne, was admitted to an Alzheimer's care facility in 2008, and she's satisfied with the care she and his facility offer him. Since then, she has become interested in Alzheimer's research and care and has assumed positions on the advisory board for the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine's department of psychiatry and on the Patient and Family Advisory Council at Hopkins Memory and Alzheimer's Treatment Center. She was slated to join the administrative board of the Copper Ridge Institute, a research and educational entity centered on Alzheimer's and other dementias. Mary said there was so much to learn that she was grateful for the preparedness she attained at Mary Washington.

Lyn Howell Gray '69 lives in Liberia and works for USAID on a project that supports Liberian non-governmental organizations.

Catherine "Cathe" Cantwell Luria continues to work as a nurse practitioner three days a week. She and her husband have practiced in Gig Harbor, Wash., for 32 years, and Cathe now specializes in treating patients with psychiatric issues. She recently was re-elected to the board of directors of ARNPs United of Washington State, an umbrella organization of nurse practitioners throughout Washington. Cathe and Eric have two grandchildren and were expecting a third, making two girls and a boy. The two of them are active English country dancers and spent a week of winter vacation dancing in St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, where they also enjoyed snorkeling in the beautiful blue waters. Cathe pursues her other passion, singing, with regular lessons and lots of practice.

Carolyn Perry Grow's husband, Dave, suffered a second stroke last May and was making great progress in recovery thanks to an "incredibly talented physical therapist." Despite the intense PT schedule, Carolyn and Dave traveled to Williamsburg and to State College, Pa., for football. Their two cats – Meg, an "old gal of 12," and Abby, a tiny, spry 4-year old – are good friends and a lot of fun to watch. **Joan Cuccias Patton** officially declared her retirement at the end of June and was looking forward to visiting family in Oklahoma, Alabama, California, and the Outer Banks of North Carolina, and to enjoying the nearby kids and grandkids more than ever.

1967

Nancy McDonald Legat
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I continue to love being retired and home with my husband, Dan, in Lexington, S.C. We enjoy our seven grandchildren, the oldest of whom was married in April. I enjoy doing a little writing, making note cards, volunteering, and mentoring, and Dan and I are active in our church

Sheri Gates Brindle's official home is their boat in Sanford, Fla., about midway between Orlando and Daytona. They've been in that area since 2004. Since 2006, they have spent their summers in the desert Southwest, where it is cool in the higher elevations. They tent camped their first three summers then bought a fifth-wheel trailer in 2009 and have extended their camping, both distance- and time-wise. They really took off in 2010, leaving in April and traveling west to see their sons and their families in Tucson, Ariz., and San Diego before heading to Alaska for the summer. They traveled to nearly all the places in the state to which a car can venture. They spent much time in Fairbanks, then headed south to Denali National Park and Preserve, where they saw Mount McKinley, then on to the beautiful Kenai Peninsula. They also visited Valdez, site of the Exxon oil disaster, and Haines and Skagway, both south of Whitehorse in the Yukon Territory of Canada. They especially loved the long hours of sunlight; it never got totally dark from the beginning of June until mid-August, although the sun did set briefly each night. The long twilight there lasts from sunset to sunrise in the summer. After the cool temperatures of Alaska, they appreciated Arizona's upper 90s and triple digits in September and early October. They stayed in the Tucson area and visited both their sons until early this year, when they finally headed back to Florida. Their younger son moved to Germany, so they plan a camping trip there, probably next year.

1968

Meg Livingston Asensio
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1969

Linda Marett Disosway
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As you read the latest notes from our classmates, I hope everyone is having a good, and not too hot, summer.

Jean Polk Hanky received a lovely handwritten letter from our class scholarship recipient, **Elizabeth E. Carnevale '14**. Elizabeth is a freshman planning to major in political science and international affairs with the goal of completing the Middle East Studies Certificate. She has always enjoyed learning about history, cultures, languages, politics, and world affairs. In high school, she played basketball and was captain of the varsity softball team for two years. She also is a passionate runner and that is her focus at UMW. She works four days a week in the Simpson Library's department of collection maintenance and

book repair, serves as secretary of her hall council, is a member of the freshman focus group with the dean, and plans to add community service to her busy schedule. Her favorite part of UMW has been getting to know her fellow students and professors. In her letter, Elizabeth was most sincere in thanking our class for the financial aid our scholarship is providing her, and Jean was touched by her gratitude. Elizabeth sounds like an amazing young woman, and I know our class is very proud of her. I hope all of you will continue to keep our class scholarship in mind when making gifts to UMW.

Lesley Fanning Atkinson and her husband live in Williamsburg, where she is director of donor relations at the College of William and Mary. Her husband retired from Cargill about 10 years ago and is executive director of the Virginia Soybean Association. They have three daughters – one in Bloomington, Ind.; one in Norfolk, Va.; and one in Denver. They have five grandchildren, and another was on the way. Lesley loves being a grandmother! For their family vacation the past several years, she and her husband have rented a beach house in Duck in North Carolina's Outer Banks, where they have a ball. Lesley lost touch with **Nancy Schossberg** and **Sally Simmons** and would love to hear from them and anyone who was on Russell Third North. **Claudia Stell Hawks** and husband Jim planned an early summer trip to Italy to celebrate her 64th birthday. **Jeanine Zavrel Fearns** and her daughter planned a long-awaited trip in June to Yosemite and San Francisco. I hope we hear about these trips in our next issue.

Donna Cannon Julian is a proud grandmother again. Her middle daughter had her second son last December, a month early, and Donna was in Washington, D.C., helping her for three weekends, so she didn't get to send many Christmas cards. Donna and her husband spent the winter in Naples, Fla., where Donna had dinner with her freshman roommate, **Carolyn Day O'Leary**, who left before her senior year to marry. She retired from PNC Bank in Annapolis, Md., in May of 2010, and she and husband Bob took a cruise to Europe. They brought their boat down to Fort Myers, Fla., last fall and returned there in January, got on the boat, and headed to the east coast of Florida via the Keys for a couple of months. Carolyn's mother, sister, and brother live in the West Palm Beach area. Donna reported that **CeCe Smith Riffer** is the proud grandmother of six little girls. Donna attended the UMW alumni luncheon in Naples, Fla., in February. President and Mrs. Hurley were there with several others from UMW, and the group was updated on the state of the University and the direction in which it's headed with President Hurley's guidance. They enjoyed the visit and getting to know the Hurleys better. **Jane Jackson Woerner** attended an alumni event in Jupiter, Fla., in the home of **Nellie King '92**. Again, President Hurley updated everyone on the state of the University and said enrollment on the main campus is about 4,100 and expected to cap out at 4,500 when renovations to Mason and Randolph are complete. The consensus seems to be that President Hurley is doing a wonderful job of leading UMW forward.

Lyn Howell Gray and husband Jim have lived in Liberia for many years and spent some much needed time off over Christmas in Ghana, where they relaxed, enjoyed the mountain scenery by hiking, and toured the dam at Lake Volta, which provides power to four countries. Lyn and Jim spent New Year's on the Ivory Coast border enjoying some traditional culture with friends who live there. Lyn has changed jobs again to another USAID project that supports Liberian non-governmental organizations.

Again, I would love to hear from more of you. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

1970

Carole LaMonica Clark
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Ted and I had a crazy start to winter with four big snowstorms, at least 10 to 12 inches each, from late December through January. We have a long, hilly driveway and kept in shape shoveling snow. We visited my parents in Florida last January. My dad is 90, has Parkinson's disease, and is getting worse. My mom is 87 and has no short-term memory. I have one brother, who lives less than 10 minutes away from them and checks on them daily. Last February, while he and his wife babysat their granddaughter in South Carolina, Ted and I loaded up our dog, Snoopy, and spent a couple of weeks taking care of my parents. We'll probably do it again this year, as my brother and his wife are expecting two more grandchildren, one in South Carolina and one in London.

As probate judge in York County, S.C., Carolyn Woodruff Rogers '70 has jurisdiction over a variety of matters, from estates of decedents to the issuance of marriage licenses.

After living in the Middle East for years during the late 1970s, **Brenda Martin Butler** now lives in Virginia Beach and has resumed her world traveling. She visited Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands in 2007. She vacationed in Peru, flew over the Nazca Lines, and climbed the mount on top of Macchu Picchu in 2008. She recently spent two weeks in China, including five days cruising on the Yangtze River. Brenda is finance director at Edgar Cayce's Association for Research and Enlightenment. Her son lives and works in New York City.

Martha Veasey Sawyer and husband Roger adopted a stray black cat they named Ridge. Their other two cats, Butch and Sunny, were not so happy about this arrangement. Martha frequently sends photos of the wildlife on their property. I especially loved the young raccoons in the tree and the pileated woodpeckers. **Martha Pickard Zink** did not attend our 40th reunion last year because she had gone the year before with her suitemates from the Class of 1969 and was amused to discover her picture with them in this year's reunion brochure. Martha and Rip, her semi-retired husband of 41 years, live mainly on Kiawah Island, S.C., but still have a home in Maryland and a beach house in Delaware. Son Doug, 39, is a builder and restorer in Charlottesville. Son Matt, a mortgage banker, lives in Baltimore with wife Amy, a real estate appraiser; daughter Hannah, 5; and son James, 4. Martha still does watercolor paintings, mainly on commission; volunteers in fundraising; and belongs to book, bridge, and garden clubs.

Cathy Haringer Christiansen has entered many gingerbread house competitions, and her 2010 gingerbread house, "Santa's Globe Theatre," was on *Good Morning America* on Christmas Eve. **Kathi O'Neill Argiropoulos** visited **Mary Karen Vellines** and her husband, Milton Block, last October after the Vellineses moved into their new home in Charlotte, N.C. Mary Karen's daughter, son-in-law, and two grandchildren also live in Charlotte, and Mary Karen continues to recruit international students part time. **Christina Kormanski Krause**, **Kathy Thiel**, **Susan Duffey DiMaina**, **Mary Anne Burns '69**, and Kathi O. had dinner before Christmas at Chef Geoff's in Tysons Corner in Northern Virginia.

Edith "Dibby" Clark spent much of 2010 traveling and attending reunions. In late December 2009 she joined her mother and sister, **Anne C. Clark '69**, on a cruise on the Crystal Symphony to celebrate their mother's 90th birthday, Christmas, and New Year's. They left Buenos Aires and cruised along the coast of Argentina. They followed the coast of Chile, made several stops, and disembarked in Santiago. In March and April 2010, Dibby again joined her mother and sister for a Crystal Serenity World Cruise in Dubai, UAE. They stopped several times in United Arab Emirates and Oman, then made a dash along Pirate Alley,

Barbara Forgione Tansey '70 chaired the Tellico Village Women's Club home tour last October, raising $10,000 to fund international, national, state, and local projects.

accompanied by a Norwegian battleship, a Japanese submarine, and some helicopters! They stopped in Saudi Arabia, cruised the Red Sea, went through the Suez Canal, and cruised the Mediterranean Sea. Dibby came to our 40th reunion last June, then attended a reunion of the Red Cross Women, nicknamed the "Donut Dollies," who served our soldiers during the Vietnam War. The reunion was in St. Petersburg, Fla., which gave Dibby a chance to visit a former colleague, travel to Sarasota, and visit the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus and the Everglades. When she is home, Dibby gardens and does deep water aerobics, running a summer program for her community pool. She is working on creating a consulting career, which includes "Gardens by Dibby," specializing in azalea pruning and four-season gardens. She continues to renovate her home and spent this past winter recuperating from some injuries and from carpal tunnel surgery.

Carolyn Woodruff Rogers and husband Marshall, a U.S. Airways captain, have lived in Rock Hill, S.C., for 25 years. Carolyn practiced law until last year, when she decided to run for York County probate judge. She was elected last November and has jurisdiction over a variety of matters, including estates of decedents, medical and chemical commitments, guardianships and conservatorships, and the issuance of marriage licenses. Their older son, Zach, married in Asheville, N.C., last July, and they live in Atlanta, where he is an airline pilot and wife Elizabeth attends graduate school at Georgia Tech. Their younger son, Hunter, graduated from Clemson University and lives in Hollywood, where he works as a grip/gaffer/production assistant. Carolyn talks frequently to **Francie Cone Caldwell** and **Laura King Myse**. Francie has a fundraising job with the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and has one twin daughter, Keenan, in New York City and the other daughter, Scottie, in Chicago. Carolyn and Francie get together once or twice a year in South Carolina or Virginia and take "field trips." They were on a mission to see all the James River plantations. Laura and husband Bob, a retired oral surgeon, split their time between their homes in Virginia and Florida. Carolyn still thinks that Laura is the funniest human being ever. Carolyn managed to lure **Barbara Bingley**, **Karen Anderson Muszynski**, and **Karen Stifft Carroll** down to Rock Hill about 10 years ago, and they communicate via Christmas cards and email.

Lynn Dewitt Fogel and husband Joe live in Stone Mountain, Ga. Oldest son Matthew, 26, is a database manager at Zynex Medical, an international healthcare company specializing in electrotherapy and other drug-free pain management techniques. He continues to pursue his MBA part time at the University of Colorado Denver. Youngest son William, 23, designs websites and invented the Easy Edger, a wheel attachment for weed eaters. Lynn was enjoying her 31st year of teaching reading to first- and second-graders at Rockbridge Elementary School in Gwinnett County. Last summer, Lynn vacationed in Florida with a friend; visited her brother, Craig, in Lynchburg, Va.; and taught summer school. Joe has completed 26 years with Southern Cathodic Protection and continues to travel internationally. He went diving in the Red Sea with buddies last year for his annual scuba trip. He also visited Cairo and Luxor, Egypt, and made a side trip to Petra, Jordan. In 2010, Lynn and Joe attended their goddaughter's wedding in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in January and a business partner's daughter's wedding in Sea Island, Ga., in May.

Kaye Webster Gary is artistic director of K Dance, a nonprofit in Richmond. Kaye, her roommate, **Martha Veasey Sawyer**, and suitemates **Mary Jane Johnson Tyler** and **Diane Sampson Luttrell** had a mini-reunion last fall in Kilmarnock, Va., at Kaye's home on the Chesapeake Bay. **Anne Sommervold LeDoux** and husband John live in Stafford, Va. Anne is enjoying her second year of retirement, traveling, and trying to improve her golf game. She visited India for 19 days in January 2010 and traveled to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos in January 2011. John continues his consulting, serves as vice president of the Stafford Education Foundation, and golfs. Son Matt; his wife, Shannon; their daughter, Grace, 3; and their son, Cash Watson, 1, live in Phoenix. Anne's biggest pleasure is traveling to Arizona to see her grandchildren. Youngest son Justin is a teacher in Stafford County and was to marry in July.

Anita Churney Keeler '79 is in her 33rd year with the federal government and works in the same building in Fairfax, Va., as her Jefferson suitemate, Barbara Digiacomo Nawrocki '79, a contracting officer at the General Services Administration.

Frimalee Kaplan Nowicki and husband Vince live in Woodbridge, Va. They traveled to Jordan to visit ancient biblical sites in February 2010. They vacationed in Oregon last July, visited friends and wineries, attended the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and relaxed at the beach. They started in Willamette Valley, then traveled to Portland, Ashland, and Cannon Beach. They also vacationed in France with a focus on Bordeaux and walking in the Dordogne Valley region. Their guide was an expert in prehistoric sites, and they walked 6 to 8 miles a day, stopped for lectures at various sites, visited wineries and Michelin-starred restaurants, and stayed in Relais & Châteaux. They traveled to Tunisia last December to view the ancient Roman sites and visit the desert and beach areas. Vince works for the State Department, and Frimalee is on their condo board.

Conde Palmore Hopkins and husband Hop of Ashland, Va., celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary last August. Conde commuted from Ashland to Mary Washington every day during her senior year, carpooling with Mrs. Lucille Jones, who taught Latin. Hop left for Vietnam on our graduation day, June 7, 1970. Oldest son Ryan teaches and coaches football at Loyola Blakefield, a private school in Baltimore. His wife, Liz, tutors, and they have two children: Finn, 6, and Kate, 5. The Hopkinses' other son, Haden, is studying to be a transplant coordinator; he is in graduate school at U.Va. and is engaged to Colleen Burke of White Stone, Va. Conde and Hop continue to work together at their business, Trio Fasteners, and she still spends a weekend a year in Nags Head, N.C., with **Linda Holt Armstrong**, **Barbara Burton Micou '69**, and **Linda Gattis Shull '69**.

Cheryl Martin lives in Conway, N.C., but spent a year in Boone, N.C., earning her master's in reading at Appalachian State University. After 35 years in the North Carolina education system, she retired in 2006 from Roanoke-Chowan Community College, where she chaired the English department and directed the college transfer/general education division. Since then, Cheryl has cared for her mother, gardened, read murder mysteries, and vacationed on the Outer Banks. **Barbara Forgione Tansey** and husband Bruce of Loudon, Tenn., celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary last year on a Panama Canal cruise from Miami. Last September, they vacationed in Hilton Head, S.C., where Bruce golfed and Barbara shopped. Barbara chaired the Tellico Village Women's Club home tour last October, raising $10,000 to fund international, national, state, and local projects. Daughter Lisa and husband Eric joined them for Thanksgiving, and Barbara and Bruce spent Christmas with them in Virginia.

Colleen McCahill Turley '81, David Turley '81, and son Nolan, 14, of Fredericksburg took a pilgrimage to Jordan and Israel last August.

Gretchen Gregory Davis and husband Gene continue to split their time between their homes in Chesterfield, Miss., and Copper Mountain in Colorado, where they ski and snowshoe in the winter and bike and hike in the summer. Gene plans to continue practicing radiology into 2012 unless the lure of the mountains gets too strong. Last July, Gretchen became president

f the Miriam Foundation, which aims to improve the ives of children with learning isabilities. Son Greg lives near Boston and is a senior software ngineer working on a project nvolving helicopter equipment. Gretchen's dad turned 90 last August, bikes about 60 miles a week, and biked the Netherlands last spring!

Susan Keith Grice and husband Dick live in Smithfield, Va., with their 5-year-old schnoodle, Buddy. Susan still teaches piano to children and adults. Daughter Becca, 28, lives and works in New York City. Susan spent a long weekend with her last July, and they visited Central Park, toured a Picasso exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and saw *Mary Poppins* on Broadway. Dick golfs, has a window treatment franchise, and flew to Arizona with his brother last July to help their mother celebrate her 85th birthday.

Take care and please send me your news.

Native American Helps Aboriginals Keep Ancestral Lands

In high school, **Neva Hurtado Adamson '02** contemplated taking zeros rather than giving oral reports.

"I used to have the biggest fear of public speaking that you could imagine," she said.

Things change.

Nowadays, Adamson wields her words like weapons, lobbying Congress and confronting heads of international companies in the fight to protect the threatened homelands of indigenous peoples. She travels the world listening to their concerns about encroaching development and negotiating between decision makers who want to force them out and those with the power to help them stay. Her work with Fredericksburg-based First Peoples Worldwide circles the globe, but it also goes further. Because the areas of the Earth on which she concentrates hold the vast majority of the world's biodiversity, they also could contain secrets to our collective survival.

Adamson's message must pack a punch. She has to be articulate, concise, and confident – all skills she honed in college.

"I loved Mary Washington," said Adamson, now a 35-year-old mother of two who lives in Stafford County. "It was perfect for me and where I was in my life."

A history major, she credits professors like William Crawley, Allyson Poska, and Carter Hudgins with helping her become an effective communicator – on paper, at least.

It was at Mary Washington, too, that Adamson finally conquered her fear of speaking before a crowd. After graduation, she remained on campus, taking a job as an admissions counselor and giving presentations at open houses, recruitment fairs, and special events.

Meanwhile, her mother, Rebecca Adamson, known for initiating the first-ever reservation-based microloan in the United States, started First Nations Development Institute in 1980, when Neva Adamson was 6 years old. The organization, which helps restore control of assets to the Native Americans who own them, gradually began to broaden its reach, spinning off in 1997 into First Peoples Worldwide.

The younger Adamson grasped the paramount importance of her mother's work but resisted being part of it.

"As I began to understand it, I knew for certain I didn't want to do it," said Adamson, whose godmother is feminist icon Gloria Steinem.

Norm Shafer

Neva Hurtado Adamson '02 credits UMW history professors with teaching her to become an effective communicator, a trait that's vital to her role as head of First Peoples Worldwide. The organization negotiates with top-level decision makers to protect the homelands of indigenous peoples from development and other threats.

"I saw how hard Mom worked. I saw how little financial reward she reaped. I saw how often you feel like you're hitting your head against a brick wall in this work."

In 2005, though, inspired by brief stints with the National Indian Gaming Association and Native American Management Services, Adamson relented. Serving as managing director of First Peoples, she has traveled to Botswana, Bosnia, Indonesia, and beyond, helping aboriginals stay on their ancestors' land and pushing for recognition of the respect and understanding they have for their native soil.

"It's the best thing I've ever done, working with my mom," Adamson said about their mission with First Peoples and the work they've hired a string of UMW interns to help them do.

And, finally, after years of slow progress – first for her mother and then for herself – Adamson believes their efforts are gaining traction. Just this spring, for example, Congress held its inaugural hearing devoted solely to the indigenous peoples of Africa. The Adamsons hope that progress encourages others to get involved.

"Are we making a difference? Yes. Could we make more of a difference? Hell, yes," Neva Adamson said. "We're a good core group, and the difference we can make is literally a save-the-world kind of a difference, but we can't do it by ourselves."

– Lisa Chinn '92

1971

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1972

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1973

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Mary Byrd
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1978

Cindy Clark
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1979

Barbara Emerson
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After our class news appeared in the fall, I heard from **Suzy Ward Gardner** and **Anita Churney Keeler**. Suzy has lived in Cocoa, Fla., for 30 years and worked as a church musician for the first 20. She teaches band, chorus, orchestra, and piano at Cocoa High School, where she's been for seven years. Husband Michael works in life support at Kennedy Space Center. They have three children, and the baby, Elizabeth, was to graduate from the University of Florida this past spring. Suzy has no grandchildren, but oldest son Michael Jr. married last April, so she has high hopes! She visits family in the Norfolk, Va., area a couple times a year. They took their children to Washington, D.C., when they were younger and made sure to hit Fredericksburg and drive by campus. Suzy said that Mary Washington seemed the same at that time, but the surrounding area had changed substantially. She said she'd be lost now with all the new buildings but that it's exciting to hear about the advancements her alma mater is making.

Anita said that it seems like only last summer that we were posing for pictures on the steps of Monroe at our 30th reunion! She attended with her sister **Barbara Churney Suhre '69** and was grateful for the shade of the tents. Anita is in her 33rd year with the federal government and will be eligible for retirement this birthday. Sadly, her sister **Doris Marie Churney '76** died last August after an 18-month battle with cancer of the appendix. She retired from the federal government in July of 2009.

Anita's Jefferson suitemate, **Barbara Digiacomo Nawrocki**, is back in the Washington, D.C., metro area, accepted a job as a contracting officer at the General Services Administration, and works in the same building as Anita in Fairfax, Va. Anita said that it's great to see her every day rather than on sporadic trips to Florida and that Barbara claims to enjoy the snow and cold weather. Barbara's daughter works on Capitol Hill, her oldest son is at the University of Florida, and her baby is a high school senior.

Anita's roommate, **Evelyn Watts Way**, who teaches science for Spotsylvania public schools, was to become a grandmother this August and was planning a wedding for her other daughter. Anita's daughter Erin graduated from UMW in May 2010 and, while she was on campus, had weekly dinners with Evelyn. Anita's other daughter, Kathleen, studies psychology at GMU; sings jazz, blues, and Broadway songs at local venues; and was wrapping up a CD. Anita said she'd love to escape the cold weather but doesn't see it happening until her girls are more settled in their careers.

> *The* Boston Globe *published an article about Mary Ann Mayer '83 and her bed and breakfast in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.*

To those who haven't had a chance to send class news, please email me at the address above. Your classmates would love to hear what you're doing.

1980

Suzanne R. Bevan
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1981

Lori Foster Turley
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Molly Thomas of St. Louis is a paralegal with Armstrong Teasdale, a firm she's been with for 29 years. She works most often with the security clearance team, which assists key individuals and companies facing concerns in that area, and with labor and employment attorneys. She received her master's degree in public administration and spends all her free time at her vacation home in County Donegal, Ireland.

Craig Howie received a two-year diplomatic appointment in London. **Colleen McCahill Turley**, **David Turley**, and son Nolan, 14, of Fredericksburg took a pilgrimage to Jordan and Israel last August. Nolan served at daily Mass at many of the sites they visited throughout the Holy Land. David enjoys competitive shooting, serves as deputy grand knight with the Knights of Columbus, helps with Nolan's Boy Scout troop, and assists the priests with altar boys, including Nolan, at their parish. Nolan also plays soccer and basketball, and swims. Colleen sings in the Schola at their parish, assists once a month at Mass, and facilitates a women's spiritual study group.

Jenny Sharp-Warthan is in her 24th year as a physician at Denbigh Family Practice in Newport News, Va. Husband Danny is facility maintenance manager for York County. They became grandparents last October, when daughter Christie gave birth to a baby boy. Daughter Morgan finished her sophomore year at the College of Charleston. Jenny's travels in the past year include trips to Baja, Mexico; Alaska; Siesta Key, Fla.; and Italy for their 30th anniversary.

1982

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1983

Marcia Guida James
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Our middle son, Michael, will attend Tufts University in the fall, and he's thrilled … but not as thrilled as we are to be covering two college tuitions. Work continues to keep Tom and me busy with frequent travel.

The *Boston Globe* published an article about **Mary Ann Mayer** and her bed and breakfast in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Mary Ann asks alumni to watch for the Topher Bill Scholarship Auction; she donates a two-night stay at the B&B in Dr. Bill's honor.

Katherine Farmer's son Martin graduated from Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island, S.C., in December. A private first class, he was completing his specialty training at Fort Jackson, S.C. Her other son, Jonathan, attends community college, plays soccer, and studies karate.

> *Devon Painter '85 was the associate costume designer to Desmond Heeley for the Broadway production of* The Importance of Being Earnest.

Ann Clark Lockhart celebrated a big birthday in

October, with a "last night of the 40s" party with friends and dinner with both sides of the family. Her family took a ski trip to Vail, Colo., last year, chartered a sailboat in the British Virgin Islands for a week in April, and traveled to the North Carolina mountains to hike and see the fall foliage. Ann is in her fifth year teaching 2-year olds in preschool. Her son started high school, and the twins are in sixth grade.

Kiki Connerton Smith's oldest son, Tucker, and wife Tiffany live in Baltimore, and he works in Washington, D.C. Son Zach received a degree in media arts and animation from the Art Institute of Portland in December and was job hunting. Daughter Cragan graduated from St. Andrew's Priory School in Honolulu and is a freshman at Oregon State University. Kiki and Dixon are enjoying their empty nest and planned to be in Hawaii until sometime this summer.

Sarah Thompson Doig works in her private hand therapy practice. Her oldest, Jessica, is a freshman at the University of Denver. Greg is a high school sophomore learning to drive. Sarah visits Alabama frequently to see her 87-year-old mom, and she and Bob skied some this year. **Anne Thompson Steen**, **Wendy Burnette Dickinson**, and **Susan Nelson** joined Sarah last year for a girls' weekend and some rest and relaxation in their new beach house.

Vince DiBenedetto has been with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office for 25 years. He still does polygraphs and acted as the agency's public information officer until April. Vince was eligible to retire in June but didn't plan to take that route. He was appointed to the Winchester School Board, first to finish an unexpired term and then for the full four-year appointment. He graduated from the Sorensen Institute Political Leaders Program at U.Va., which had him traveling around the state and mingling with people with different political outlooks and backgrounds.

Susan Leavitt spent her birthday in the Cayman Islands with close friends. **Susan Hardy Johnson** worked in mental health for many years and is now an administrative assistant at Good Shepherd Preschool, where her son was a student. She and William "Page" Johnson have been married 26 years. For more than 20 years, they have lived in Fairfax, Va., and Page has been commissioner of the revenue there for most of that time. Son Dillon, 22, was to receive his degree in psychology, like his mom, with UMW's 100th graduating class this past spring, and he hopes to earn a master's degree in special education at George Mason University. Son Sam, 19, is a UMW freshman and is interested in science.

1984

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Tara Kilday Lindhart
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1985

Deona Landes Houff
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Whenever I seek Class Notes information, some classmates claim to have no news. Ah, but even as we age, transition keeps coming. My son and I moved the week after Christmas to a perfect-for-us house in beautiful downtown Staunton, Va., home to fabulous food, music, architecture, history, art, and the American Shakespeare Center. Come see us. We have plenty of room for guests.

Lisa Taylor moved, too, from Maryland to Chantilly, Va., thanks to a job promotion at Northrop Grumman. **Julie Clark** was promoted to procurements manager at XO Communications in Herndon, Va. **Renee Allen Kuntz** of Catonsville, Md., received an unexpected promotion at the federal agency that wisely employs her. She started work on a new yoga training certification and spent a week at spring training with her husband in Sarasota, Fla. An ever-hopeful Orioles fan, she'd love to meet up with classmates at Camden Yards, win or lose. She is vice president for Reunion Weekend on the UMW Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The loss of his sales job in 2009 gave **Kent Rice** the courage to pursue his life's calling. He is now a licensed pastor in the Church of the Brethren, loves full-time ministry, and puts his English degree to work writing devotionals. He and wife Karen, a preschool teacher, have been married 18 years and live in East Petersburg, Pa., with daughters Morgan, 15, and Kensey, 12.

Patricia Lopez had a son in October 2008 and a daughter in October 2010. She said that she and husband David are off to a late start as parents but are thrilled with the gift of their beautiful, healthy children. She is in her 23rd year teaching ESL in New York's Hudson Valley.

Devon Painter, a costume designer in New York, travels the country working in regional theater companies. She was associate designer to Desmond Heeley for the Broadway production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, starring Brian Bedford. Earlier this year, she designed costumes for productions in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Washington, D.C.

Jan Deese Bryant's daughter got her nursing license in July 2010. In February of this year, Jan's father passed away. She and husband Mike live in the Lynchburg, Va., area and enjoy fly-fishing and shooting sporting clays. Jan sees **Laura Mason Howard '86** at church.

Larry Hinders and **Meg Bain Hinders** live in Herndon, Va., with their four children. Larry teaches English and creative writing and coaches golf at Park View High School, and does occasional remodeling work with **Pat Matalavage**. Meg, a stay-at-home mom, is busy with her family's various activities, including bass, cello, chorus, swimming, field hockey, basketball, cross country, Girl Scouts, and tennis. Larry recently had dinner with **Tom Updike '86**, **Karl Stith '86**, and **Tom Parham '86**. Meg corresponds with **Anna Kelly Hanback '86** and **Leslie Ward**.

Who do you keep up with? Please share your news and theirs for the next issue.

1986

Lisa Harvey
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We've come full circle! **Stephanie Doswald Sebolt**, who received her doctorate in curriculum and instruction from Virginia Tech in December, is an adjunct professor for UMW and teaches differentiated instruction across the curriculum for ELLs in Roanoke, Va. **Tracy Greener Hollan** and her children led a mission team to Germany in June, working at a retreat center in the Black Forest with 50 children. Congratulations to **Alice Gushee Prior**, who has remarried. **Carolyn Copland Haupt** has worked at BB&T for 17 years and is now a vice president. She and her husband live on the water in Urbanna, Va., a small town off the Rappahannock River. **Troy Knighton** regularly sees **Brent Davis**, **Anne Huber Gorham**, **Kim Mears**, **Tina Sandridge Carlston**, **Debbie Young Barbuto '85**, **Paul Killmer**, **Brian White '89**, **Ken Plaia '88**, **John Tindall** and **Bettie Dollins Tindall**, and **Susan Loyd Williams**. Work keeps Troy, who is in the Redskins Marching Band, busy, but he also enjoys community theater; volunteering for nonprofits in the Washington, D.C., area; and traveling. He's taken recent trips to Vermont, Seattle, New Orleans, and Rehoboth Beach, Del.

Dell Hagan Rhodes '97, director of student life at the Community College of Baltimore County, was accepted into a prestigious national leadership training institute for women in college administration and faculty.

Erin Rodman '98 writes movies for DreamWorks Studios in Los Angeles.

Correction: I misunderstood an update from **Shayne Estes**, reporting that he was serving as a pastor. Shayne was recently recommended by

Teaching Low-Income Students Changes Recent Grad's Trajectory

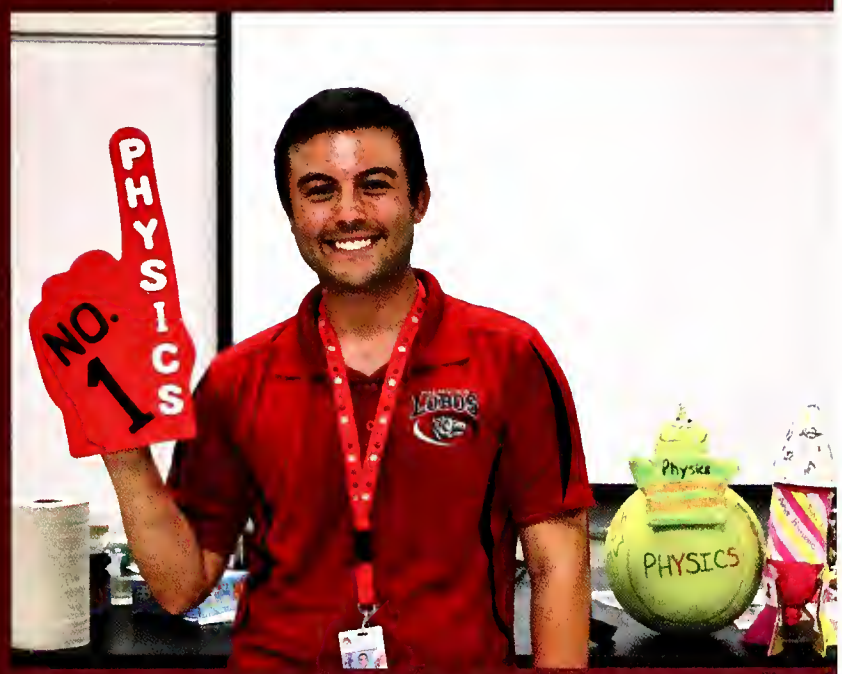
During his college years, **Nicolas Perilla '09** never imagined he would become a teacher, much less encourage students to study science.

"I thought about medical school, maybe law school, but never education," said Perilla, 24.

In retrospect, education may have been just the right move for the physics major. Cedric Rucker '81, UMW dean of student life, said, "Nick was very much interested in making the world a better place."

That's exactly what he's doing for a group of students at Palmview High School in southern Texas.

While Perilla was debating future careers his senior year, he was contacted by a recruitment director at Teach for America, a highly competitive program that aims to improve educational opportunities in low-income communities. "She sold me on it," Perilla said.



Teach for America recruited Nicolas Perilla '09 to teach physics in a low-income community in Texas. He took the offer, altered his life track, and is changing the lives of students.

Once selected, Perilla was placed at Palmview, where a good number of students speak Spanish as their first language. Perilla – who spent much of his childhood in Colombia – is fluent in Spanish and soon became a mentor to many of the students.

In his first year of teaching, Perilla took a bold step: He pushed to bring AP physics to Palmview, a school that previously had no Advanced Placement courses. It was a tough sell, Perilla said, but "it ultimately came down to the students' asking for it."

In his second year, Perilla wanted to broaden his students' horizons, so he set a new goal: a spring break trip to the nation's capital. After accomplishing the remarkable feat of raising $25,000 in two months, he and 22 students flew to Washington, D.C., in March. In addition to sightseeing, the students met with a White House adviser on science, technology, engineering, and math education. He told them about federal government initiatives for Hispanic students. They also visited the National Institute of Standards and Technology, where they witnessed cutting-edge scientific research. "We just really wanted to give them the opportunity to see what was available," Perilla said.

As an undergraduate, Perilla participated in Generating Opportunities for Leadership Development, a program that weaves students' personal growth with community-service activities. His other leadership positions at UMW included Judicial Review Board president, resident assistant, and orientation coordinator. He attributes his success to good mentors such as Dean Rucker and Ray Tuttle, UMW director of judicial affairs and community responsibility.

"I think the thing that really demonstrated his capacity [for teaching] was his ability to work with so many different types of people," said Rucker, who continues to keep in touch with Perilla. "He's a star."

For Perilla, the next goal is more personal: begin work on a master's degree in educational administration through Columbia University's Summer Principals Academy.

Pursuing administration, Perilla wants never to lose sight of his first teaching experience. "Being at Palmview has really shown me the potential of this place. I would love to eventually open a school down here and try to continue the fight to close the achievement gap."

Perilla feels good about the steps he took to close the gap during his two-year Teach for America stint, and he hopes those programs will stick. "I know the trip was a transformative experience in these children's lives," Perilla said. "They are incredible kids and future leaders."

– Ben Sellers

the Virginia Conference Board of Ordained Ministry of the United Methodist Church for provisional elder. Shayne hoped to be appointed to a Virginia church in July. Congratulations, Shayne.

1987

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1988

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Jay Bradshaw
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1989

Cheryl Woody Danielson
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1990

Susan Crytzer Marchant
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1991

Shannon Eadie Niemeyer
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Hello, Class of 1991! Hope you all are well. Here's the news I've received since our last update.

Mark Mesterhazy, wife Kim, and daughter Morgan welcomed the newest addition to their family, Andrew "Drew" Thomas, born in December. (Drew is the Mesterhazys' second child; due to an editing error in the last edition of *University of Mary Washington Magazine*, the number of children they have was listed incorrectly.) **Todd Stayin '92** and wife Laura welcomed their first child, daughter Elle Marie. **Diana Kelly** was excited for the 20-year reunion: "The news sparked a sleeping part of me, and I've decided, after 20 years, to start my M.Ed. this fall."

The big news this time, of course, is the reunion this past June. Unfortunately, the deadline for this edition of the magazine was in March, so look

or more on the reunion in the ext issue. It's not too late to oin our Facebook group, Mary Vashington College (UMW) Class of 1991. It's a great way or us to keep up to date and hare information.

Keep your news and updates oming.

992

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993

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994

Nathan Wade
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995

ane Archer
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996

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997

Michelle Trombetta
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celebrated nine years and ive months of wedded bliss to Vade Van House in February n a Western Caribbean cruise o Cozumel, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, and Grand Cayman. We're already ooking forward to snorkeling n Roatan, Honduras, again. Escaping Minnesota in winter s more important than getting way for our actual 10th nniversary in September, when he Minneapolis weather is eautiful. Most of our trips for he rest of the year will be to see ur 2-year-old niece, Zoey, who ives in New York with the rest f my family.

Leslie Houts Picca earned tenure and is an associate professor of sociology at the University of Dayton. Leslie, the mother of three, is celebrating by taking her family with her to London while she teaches a study abroad program.

Dell Hagan Rhodes lives in Baltimore City, Md., with husband Tim and their children, Evangeline, 2, and Wyatt, 1. She is truly fortunate that her best friend, **Raven Ellis**, whom she met at Mary Washington, lives only 10 minutes away, as Dell's children adore Auntie Raven. As director of student life at the Community College of Baltimore County, Dell serves a student population of 70,000, and her responsibilities include oversight of the leadership development program, civic engagement opportunities, the first-year experience, the Student Government Association, and all major college events. She recently was accepted into a prestigious national leadership training institute for women in college administration and faculty.

Bernadette Russell married Travis Eyrich in a Virginia barbecue wedding. **Kari Kulow Obrist**, **Hilario Ellis**, and **Jon Hickman** represented the Mary Washington contingent at the celebration. In December, **Hellie Snyder Walter** of Seattle had her second child, a beautiful red-headed daughter named Mackenzie. Hellie and Kari Kulow Obrist of Bellingham, Wash., get together to shop at Anthropologie, though way too infrequently. **Joyce Hanzlik Cain** traveled with husband Doug to Jamaica in November to attend **Jennifer Macomber Meidinger '98** and Jeff Meidinger's wedding. Also attending from Mary Washington were **Megan Will '98** and **Natalia Norko '98**. It was a great vacation for Joyce before she changed career paths, becoming a full-time stay-at-home mom to children Josh, Ethan, and Sabella.

Krissy Tsantes Moore and husband Derek moved to Morristown, N.J., after welcoming their first baby girl, Lyla Zane Moore, in June 2009.

Kimberly Ranney married Michael Smith in September 2009, then welcomed their first baby boy, Martin Finnegan "Finn" Smith, this January. They moved from Brooklyn to Maplewood, N.J., around the corner from Kim's brother, **Brian Ranney '94**, and family. **Pam Ellison Massa** and husband Justin of Long Island, N.Y., welcomed son Lucas in February. Pam is a sonographer with a private radiology group.

Nettie Liburt-Weiner earned her doctorate in animal science at Rutgers University in January. An equine specialist and field nutritionist for Kent Nutrition Group/Blue Seal Feeds, she lives on Long Island with husband Randy. Nettie caught up with **Christina Staehling-Zamora** and **Greg Willoughby** at **Julia Rosenbaum**'s February engagement party in New York City. **Jennifer Wilson Watson** met up with **Cecelia Gibson Walls '98** and her adorable baby girl, Gena, at a baby shower for **Heather Payne Phillips '99**, who was expecting her second child this spring. Jennifer works at the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board, recently became a field leader with MOPS International, and will help plan local and national events.

Matthew Michaelson moved back to Las Vegas last year, is a high school math teacher in Clark County, and teaches math part time at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he's pursuing a master's in math sciences. While in Fredericksburg in August, he visited UMW and had lunch with Dr. Sumner and Dr. Hydorn. **Jason Terril** has lived in Hawaii for two years and visited Japan for Thanksgiving, which provided a needed dose of autumn weather.

Laura Rawlett '05 was engaged to be married to Brandon Taylor in June on St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

1998

Erika Giaimo Chapin
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Adrien Snedeker Dickerson and husband Adam welcomed baby Simon Elliott in January. Also in the "addition" column, **Todd Hamlin** welcomed Nestle, a chocolate Lab puppy into his family. **Josh Bacigalupi** and wife Darci were expecting their first child in August and couldn't be happier. **Chris** and **Jayme Van Horn** have been busy chasing baby Hailey, who joined her 2-year-old brother and sister in November. **Jeremy Blain** and family of San Antonio had a recent visit from former roommate **Lars Thestrup**, wife Heather, and 2-year-old son Hadin, who live in Houston. Jeremy and Jennifer are happy to be back in the United States after two years in Germany and were expecting the fourth addition to their family in May.

Ali Meier '09, an event production coordinator for AVT Event Technologies in Washington, D.C., was training for a triathlon to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Erin Rodman writes movies for DreamWorks Studios in Los Angeles and was eagerly awaiting **Laura Letchworth Nesbit**'s return to dry land. Laura, who was deployed aboard the *USS Kearsarge (LHD 3)* as a Medical Service Corps officer in the Navy, was just as eager to get back and reunite with her husband, family, and friends. She and her husband moved back to Chesapeake, Va., in July and bought a house, after being stationed in Charleston, S.C., which was a blast. She plans to see Erin in Los Angeles as soon as she gets back! **Ed Kriete**, **Eric Kloss**, **Mike Cirami**, and **Deacon Chapin** planned to join **Sean Tuffy** this summer in Key West for his stag weekend. Tuffy still lives in Dublin, Ireland, where he was to get hitched this fall.

1999

Amanda Goebel
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1998

Daniela Kelley Sicuranza
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2001

Caroline Jarvis
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Teresa Joerger Mannix
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2002

Carolyn Murray Spencer
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Brandy Lee Thomas Vancil was an associate campus minister for Murray State University's Baptist Student Union and spent summers leading worship with Centrifuge camps. She moved to Nashville, Tenn., to marry her band mate and sweetheart, Nicholas Vancil. They lived there for the past few years, while Brandy was an intake coordinator for the residential counseling program Mercy Ministries of America. They continue to write songs and lead worship, and they relocated to Lynchburg, Va., so Brandy could continue using her creative talents and pursue graduate studies and licensure in marriage and family therapy.

2003

Jessica Brandes
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Jennifer Worcester Moore and husband Greg live in their hometown, Hamilton, Va., and welcomed their first child, Buckley Donner, in November. **Meg Horne Hoffman** earned a master's degree in gifted education at the College of William and Mary. **Julie Reed Lawson** and husband Jon were to welcome their first child, Grayson, in July.

2004

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Sameer Vaswani
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2005

Ally Lee
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Nina Deboeck married Christopher Wieczorek in October at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Arlington, Va. Many Mary Washington friends were present, including bridesmaids **Julia Sullivan '07** and **Stefanie Johnson '09**; **Stephanie Barnes '07**; **Aimee Celio Lemieux '97**; **Diana DiCicco**, who cantored; **Anthony Foster '01**; **Jessica Hensle**; **Liz Koch '06**; **Ben Kolodziej '04**; **Meg Marshall Martin '02**; **Tricia Pavlik '02**; **Benny Perez** and **Michelle Mattson Perez**; **Elizabeth Sieb Sanchez '07**; **Jeanette Schmitt '07**; **Elizabeth Sjoberg '04**; **Jason Smith '02** and **Gretchen Schwemer-Smith '02**; **Kathryn Watts Jesse**; **Kelly Angus '06**; **Jessica Tarabek '06**; and **Chrissy Schepis '06**. Chris and Nina lived in Arlington and planned to move to Fairfax, Va., this past spring. Nina continues to work as a youth minister at St. Leo the Great in Fairfax, and Chris is an attorney for T-Mobile.

Laura Rawlett and Brandon Taylor were to marry in June on St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands and live in Arlington. Wedding guests were to include **Ally Lee**, **Deirdre Garahan**, and **Caitie Eck '06**. Laura received a master's in education and human development from George Washington University in May.

Kimberly Pittman Gordon began studying to be a physician's assistant at Des Moines University. **Erin Brezsnyak Mullican** and husband Bryan of Old Hickory, Tenn., welcomed their third child, George Stanley, in April. George joins big sister, Clare, 4, and big brother, Nathan, 3.

2006

Shana A. Muhammad
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Carl Frank Puleo
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Morgan Taylor and Jeremy Shane Horn married in May and live in Richmond. **Abbey Wineland**, **Emily Mathison**, and **Sharon Curd** were bridesmaids. **Jameson Cowan** and **Lindsey Forbush** also helped with the wedding. Morgan is a registered nurse in the progressive care unit at Memorial Regional Medical Center in Mechanicsville, Va.

Matt Johnston of Stamford, Conn., is a product manager for Rusk, a professional hair products distributor.

Linda Fairall and **Neil Stedman** finally got engaged in November, after having dated since the beginning of freshman year. A wedding is planned in September on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Neil is a Realtor for Keller Williams in Old Town Alexandria, and Linda is a bridal consultant at Hannelore's of Olde Town.

2007

Jay Sinha
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Daniel Clendenin
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2008

Trish Lauck
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Alyssa Lee
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2009

Elizabeth Jennings
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Meredith MacDowell of Arlington, Va., a financial analyst for CACI, plans to marry Andrew Leffler, a 2005 U.Va. graduate, in December. **Ali Meier**, an event production coordinator for AVT Event Technologies in Washington, D.C., was training for a triathlon to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. **Jessie Hager Bowden** of Glen Allen, Va., teaches world history in Henrico County. She married Kevin in August 2009, and they were expecting their first child in April. **Jessica VanBrocklin** was to receive a master's of education degree in speech-language pathology at U.Va. in December and to have completed two residencies/internships in Fairfax in May.

2010

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Kelly Caldwell
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2013

Hannah Hopkins
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Kira Lanewala
klanewala@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

Gertrude Henrietta Harrell Edwards '32
Virginia Bristow Rhody '34
Frances Kathleen Whaley Humphreys '35
Edith Looney Hunt '36
Selma May Piland Johnston '37
Margaret Tyson Van Auken '37
Mabel Bernice Layman Behrens '40
Eloise Caverlee Hughes '40
Annette Van Ingen Dew '41
Alice Turbeville Dodd '41
Margaret M. Thompson '41
Glade Devoe Burnette '42
Mary Louise Early Esche '42
Annette Hodnett Ittner '42
Marion Ruth Lundberg '43
Ellen Lillis McClernon '43
Elizabeth Grubbs Stephenson '43
Phyllis A. Wilday Doyle '44
Margaret Honeyman House '44
Rebecca Engleman Russell '44
Virginia "Ginny" Marie Utnehmer Overly '45
Carolyn Rohr Huebner '46
Roberta Woodward Marshall '46
Anne Avery Moyse '46
Helen Young Evans '47
Annie Louise Patterson Gardner '47
Una Madeline Burke Kalisz '47
Donna Jean Williams Kirby '47
Mary Ann Ross Burkhart '48
Mary Ellen Donahoe Baker '49
Pauline Webb Agnor '50
Mary "Andy" Anderson Puryear Phillips '51
Suzanne Nestor Vandersyde '51

Marjorie Gibson Blaxill '52
Jean Moodispaw Boyd '52
Mildred "Mimi" Evans Lasher '52
Nancy Ann Cundey Peacock '52
Edith "Sissy" Davis Prillaman '52
Mary Alice Ratchford Armstrong '55
Marie Eileen Cella Manze '55
Jane Barry Pollack '55
Julianna Lawton Garrett Williams '55
Marylewis Peck Baxter '56
Mary Cusick Bartollas '58
Ann Caddy Morgan '59
Mary Pendleton "Penny" Garrett-Toma '66
Leona Markham Via '70
Barbara Jean Thorpe '78
Belinda Lee Darnell '82
Heather Gail Ferri King '85
Kathleen Murphy Ramsey '86
Phyllis Jean Collins '89
Judson Dale Dye '92
David Alan Hevener '92
Taffere Daniel Tassew '97

CONDOLENCES

Phyllis Quimby Anderson '44, who lost her husband
Cena Loback Carswell '44, who lost her husband
Clelia Boushee Bullard '50, who lost her husband
Virginia Hardy Vance '50, who lost her husband
Martha Stack Sim '51, who lost her brother
Elizabeth "Betsy" Carper Cole '62, who lost her husband
Sharon Haythorne Stack '64, who lost her husband
Elizabeth Ann Martin Allen '66, who lost her mother
Christina Kormanski Krause '70, who lost her father
Monecia Helton Taylor '81, who lost her stepfather
James Samuel Miller Jr. '84, who lost his father
Ann Stack Harrison '86, who lost her father
Carolyn Copland Haupt '86, who lost her son

Richard H. Warner

The Mary Washington community lost one of its most dynamic and colorful members with the recent death of Professor Emeritus of History Dick Warner at the age of 75.

Warner joined the faculty in 1968 and was a mainstay of the history department's European offerings for more than three decades, teaching a wide range of courses in early modern and modern Europe until his retirement in 2004. His signature course was Russian history, to which students flocked, drawn by both the extensiveness of his expertise and the exuberance of his delivery.

Indeed, it was sometimes not even necessary to be enrolled in his classes to hear his lectures. If he left the door to his Monroe Hall classroom open – as he habitually did – it was hard to escape his animated presentations as his voice boomed down the corridor.

Yet, enthusiastic as Professor Warner was about teaching, he was even more passionate about rugby, and his most prominent contribution to the life of the University was his avid and highly successful sponsorship of the sport he adored. Beginning in the early 1980s, he worked with messianic zeal to create a team wryly known as the "Mothers," ostensibly a reference to Mary, mother of George.

Warner's promotional efforts included untold hours writing to, and talking with, prospective players, extolling the glories of rugby and cajoling them to try out for the team. The result was a legion of converts who became devoted to the sport as well as to their guru, "Doc" Warner, whom they revered, proclaiming him the "Father of the Mothers."

Tim Brown '95, one of Warner's protégés and the organizer of a June 25 memorial tribute on the playing fields, said of Warner: "His energy and passion were boundless.... He always pushed me to be a better player, person, and leader. He was always there to help me – writing an overly enthusiastic letter of reference, vouching for the ruggers, loaning me his truck, and making me laugh."

Nothing so quickly caused Warner – a feisty sort anyway – to bristle as the suggestion, periodically made through the years, that Mary Washington should establish a football team. Warner's high-decibel response to such assertions, delivered with mock incredulity to all who would listen (and some who would not) was typically: "Don't you understand? At Mary Washington, rugby IS football!"

And at Mary Washington, Doc Warner WAS rugby.

– William B. Crawley Jr., distinguished professor emeritus of history

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Charles "Cade" Sparks

The University mourns the July 14 death of Charles "Cade" Sparks, 51. Readers may remember Sparks for his involvement in the UMW commemoration of the 1961 Freedom Rides, covered in the last edition of *UMW Magazine*. The motorcoach aficionado owned the 1960s-era bus on which the University mounted an exhibit about the Rides. He drove it, already covered with archival press photos, to Ball Circle, attracting cheers and smiles along the highways. In March, Sparks, pictured here at the wheel, told the magazine, "I've logged in over 2 million miles driving a bus over the years, but that 23 miles will stick with me for the rest of my life."

CLOSING COLUMN

Walk With the Wind

U.S. Rep. John Lewis, one of 13 Freedom Riders who boarded two buses May 4, 1961, addressed graduates at UMW Commencement on May 7. He charged the students to be relentless in pursuit of a better America, of a better world. A national civil rights leader and the son of an Alabama sharecropper, Lewis told the story that inspired the title of his 1999 memoir, *Walking With the Wind*.

What follows are excerpts from his talk.

When I was a little boy and would visit the little town of Troy, Ala., or visit Montgomery or Tuskegee, I saw those signs that said:

White Men – Colored Men
White Women – Colored Women
White Waiting – Colored Waiting

As a young child, I tasted the bitter fruits of segregation and racial discrimination. I would come home and ask my mother, my father, my grandparents, my great-grandparents, "Why segregation? Why racial discrimination?" And they would say, "That's the way it is. Don't get in the way. Don't get in trouble."

In 1955, at the age of 15, I heard the words of Martin Luther King Jr. on the old radio. It seemed like Dr. King was speaking directly to me, saying, "John Lewis, you, too, can do something. You can make a contribution." So I was inspired more than 50 years ago to find a way to get in the way.

I got in trouble. It was good trouble, necessary trouble.

James Farmer and the Freedom Riders, 50 years ago, got in trouble – necessary trouble, good trouble – to bring down those signs. They laid aside their own well-being and got involved in the circumstances of others. And when we were beaten, arrested, jailed, we kept singing. We kept praying. We didn't give up. We didn't give in. We didn't give out. We kept the faith. We kept our eyes on the prize.

And now, our world is a different world – our world is a better world.

And I say to you young graduates: You must never ever give up. You must never ever give in. Get out there – push and pull and do your part in creating the beloved community and redeeming the soul of America.

You *can* do it. You *must* do it.

As graduates, as students of the University of Mary Washington, you must stand up. You must speak up. You must speak out. You have a mandate, a mission, and a moral obligation. You must go out and do the hard and necessary work, not just here in our own country, but around the world. You must create a world community at peace with itself.

U.S. Rep. John Lewis

I want to tell you a story. When I was growing up outside of Troy, Ala., my Aunt Seneva lived in what we called a shotgun house. She didn't have a green, manicured lawn. She had a simple, plain dirt yard. Sometimes at night you could look up through the holes in the ceiling – through the holes in the tin roof – and count the stars.

One Saturday afternoon a few of my brothers and sisters and a few of my first cousins, about 12 or 15 of us young children, were out playing in my Aunt Seneva's dirt yard, and an unbelievable storm came up. The wind started blowing, the thunder started rolling, the lightning started flashing, and the rain started beating on the tin roof of this old shotgun house.

My aunt got all of us little children together and told us to hold hands. Aunt Seneva started crying and all of us little children started crying because we thought the old house was going to blow away. So when one corner of the old house appeared to be lifting from its foundation, my aunt had us go to that corner to try to hold the house down with our little bodies. Then the other corner appeared to be lifting and she had us walk to that side.

We were little children walking with the wind, but we never ever left the house.

You must never ever leave the house.

My friends, the storm may come, the wind may blow, the thunder may roll, the lightning may flash, and the rain may beat down on our old house. Call it the house of UMW. Call it the house of Virginia, or call it the house of Georgia, or California, or New York. Call it the house of Alabama.

Call it the *American* house – we all live in the same house.

I say to you, as you leave this university, as you leave this little piece of real estate, you still have the power to change the social, economic, and political structures around you. You still have the power to lead a nonviolent revolution of values and ideas in your community and around the world.

If you use that power – if you use your education, use your talent, use your skill – then a new and better world is yours to build. So I say to you today – walk with the wind! Let the spirit of history, the spirit of UMW, and the spirit of the Freedom Rides be your guide.

Back in the 'Burg

Homecoming Weekend
October 22, 2011

Think back.
Come back.
Give back.

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www.umw.edu/onlinegiving

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Parental **Payback**

Capping off a glorious commencement ceremony, a 2011 graduate wears her emotions on her hat. For more photos and coverage of the May 7 event, look inside to page 4.